# PI-NATSU GA IPPAI
BY: YACHI EMIKO

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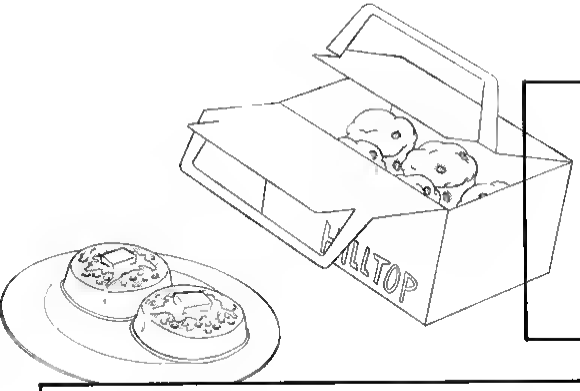
ASUKA COMICS

# PI-NATSU GA IPPAI

YACHI EMIKO

6




RUI-KUN LIKES MANY THINGS

SKIPPING CLASS TO SLEEP IN THE SCHOOL INFIRMARY'S BEDS INSTEAD...

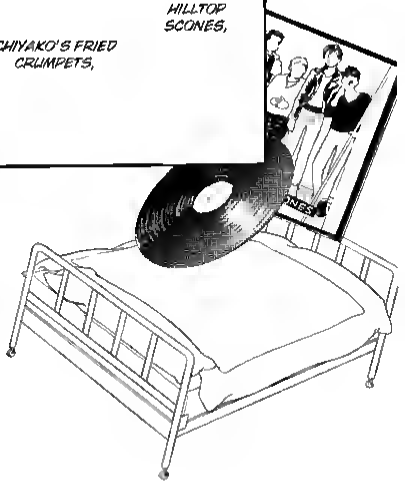
THE BAND CALLED 'EVAPORATED UNDERTONES',

CHIYAKO'S FRIED CRUMPETS,

HILLTOP SCONES,

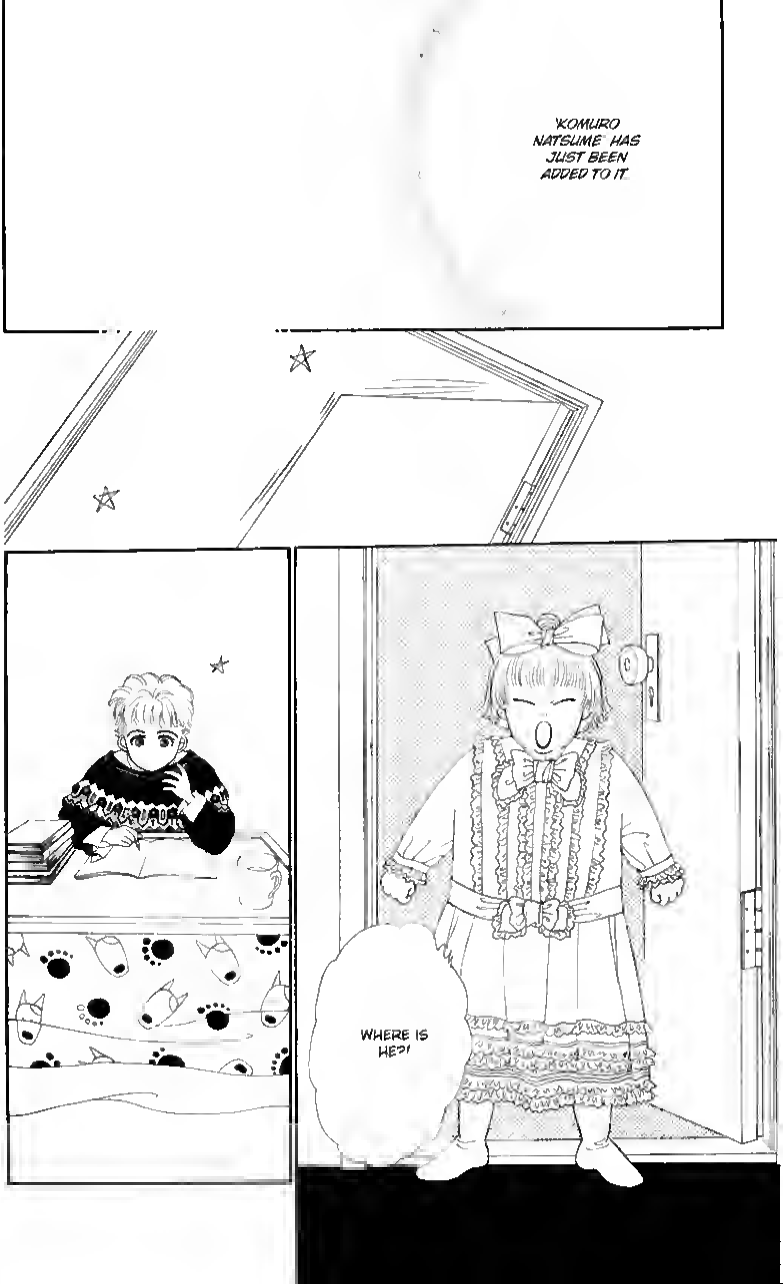
P-HELPER'S NOSE,

GIRLS WITH LONG HAIR AND BIG BOOBS...

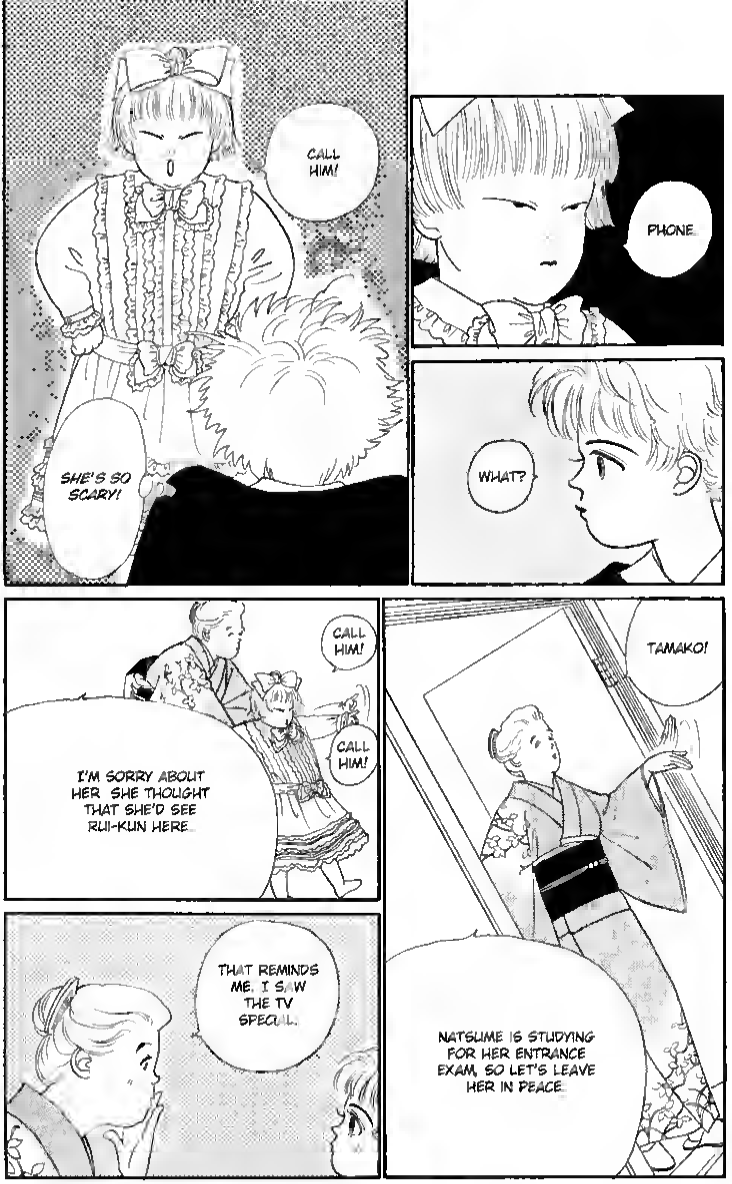


HIS FIRST LOVE, SHOJIKO-SAN...
LEARNING RUDE ENGLISH FROM HIS MODEL FRIENDS
"I LOVE YOU, TOO"

THE LIST OF THINGS RUI-KUN LIKES...


KOMURO NATSUME HAS JUST BEEN ADDED TO IT.
WHERE IS HE?!

THE DAY THE DEMON SIBLINGS ARRIVE
WHO IS HE?
I FORGOT IT WAS NEW YEAR'S DAY TODAY
OH, IT'S TANAKO-CHAN HELLO
WHERE IS HE?
.....
THAT REMINDS ME THIS TIME LAST YEAR, RUI-KUN WAS STAYING HERE
RUI-KUN ISN'T COMING OVER THIS YEAR I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT
.....

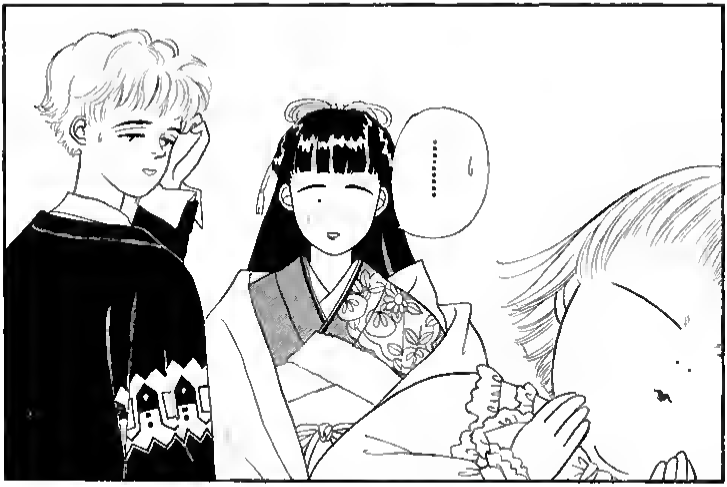

CALL HIM!
SHE'S SO SCARY!
PHONE.
WHAT?
CALL HIM!
CALL HIM!
I'M SORRY ABOUT HER. SHE THOUGHT THAT SHE'D SEE RUI-KUN HERE.
TAMAKO!
NATSUME IS STUDYING FOR HER ENTRANCE EXAM, SO LET'S LEAVE HER IN PEACE.
THAT REMINDS ME. I SAW THE TV SPECIAL.

I FELT LIKE I WAS WATCHING A SCENE OUT OF A MOVIE! I MEAN, SUCH A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG MAN. UMM, IF I WAS TWENTY YEARS YOUNGER, I'D...
IT WAS EXCITING TO WATCH, EVEN FOR AN OLD LADY LIKE ME!
I GATHERED THE NEIGHBOURHOOD'S WIVES TOGETHER TO TALK ABOUT IT. BUT YOU DON'T WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THAT, DO YOU?
WHAT'S THAT?
AAAAAARGH!!

OH, IT'S RUI-KUN! AND CHIYAKO-SAN! COME IN!
SHE CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD!
.....

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
RUI-KUN, CHIYAKO, AND EVEN FUNAHASHI-SAN!
MY, MY! IT'S SUCH A SURPRISE TO SEE YOU ALL!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THE PROMISE WE MADE? THE ONE ABOUT GOING TO PRAY FOR EXAM SUCCESS ON NEW YEAR'S DAY
OH
YES, I FORGOT ABOUT THAT...

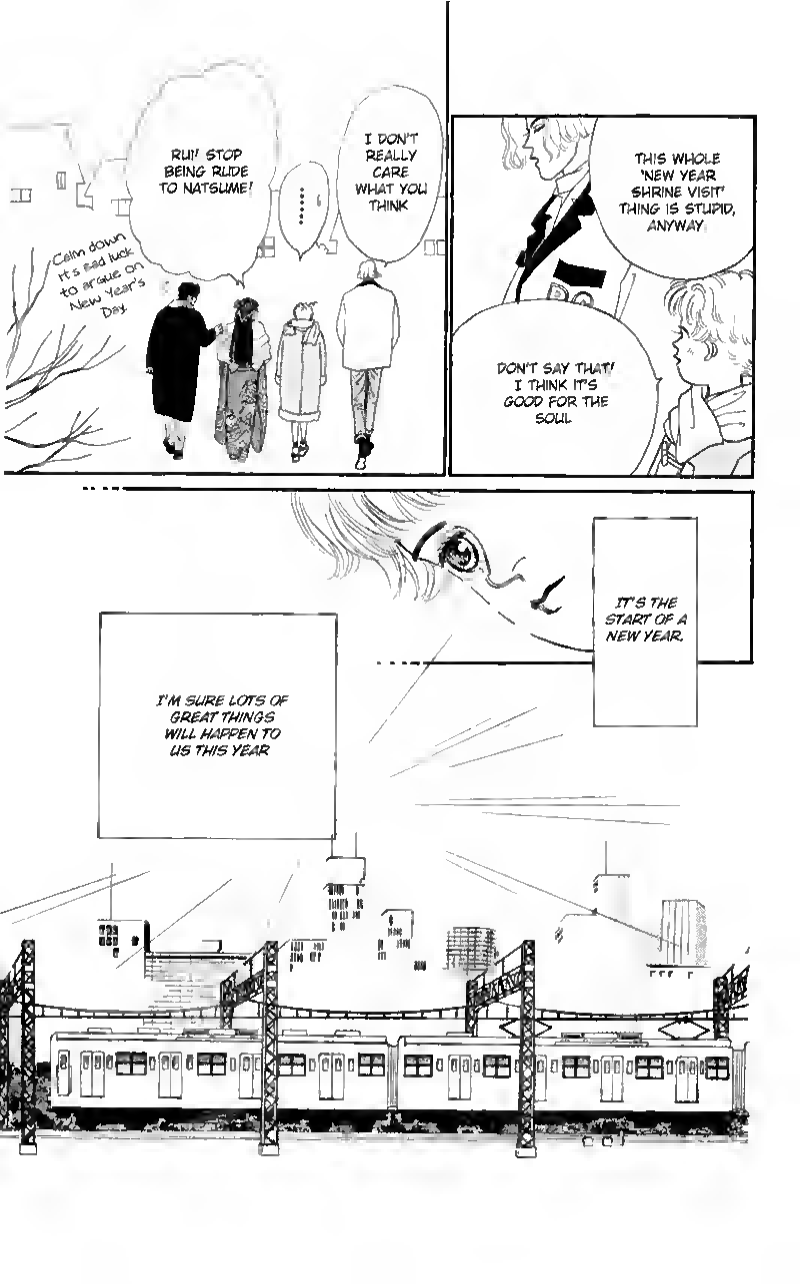
WHO'S SHE?
YOU'RE COMING ALONG, RUI-KUN?
ONLY BECAUSE CHIYAKO MADE ME
RUI! HOW COULD YOU DO THAT TO A CHILD?!
OH, YOU'RE THE KID FROM LAST YEAR.
SMILE.


.....

GIVE THAT BACK!!
HAHAHA, LET GO NOW, TAMAKO —.
DON'T GO

ME AND MY BROTHER REFER TO THEM AS THE 'DEMON SIBLINGS'.
THEY COME TO OUR HOUSE EVERY YEAR FOR THE BON FESTIVAL AND ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.
IT WAS QUITE... CROWDED IN THERE.

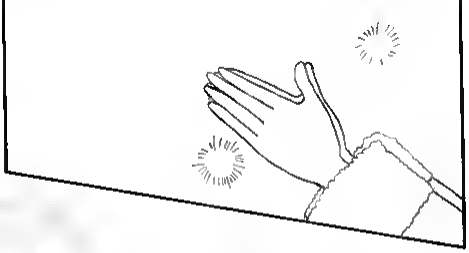
I WAS PLANNING TO AVOID THEM BY STUDYING ALL DAY.
BUT IT'S NEW YEAR'S DAY! IT'S OKAY TO HAVE A BREAK FROM STUDYING TODAY, RIGHT?
I AGREE IT'S IMPORTANT TO GIVE YOUR BRAIN A REST ONCE IN A WHILE
YES, IF YOU STUDY NON-STOP, IT CAN SOMETIMES BE DETRIMENTAL.
I'VE BEEN STUDYING WHENEVER I'VE BEEN AWAKE SINCE CHRISTMAS
And I really have been studying non-stop
I'LL PRAY FOR EXAM SUCCESS TODAY
They're right. My brain needs a rest
I HOPE IT WORKS
I'M HAPPY YOU'RE COMING ALONG WITH ME, RUI-KUN.
YOU BETTER BE. I WAS SLEEPING PEACEFULLY UNTIL CHIYAKO BARGED INTO MY ROOM AND DEMANDED I GO TO THE SHRINE WITH HER. IT WAS LIKE SOMETHING YOU WOULD DO

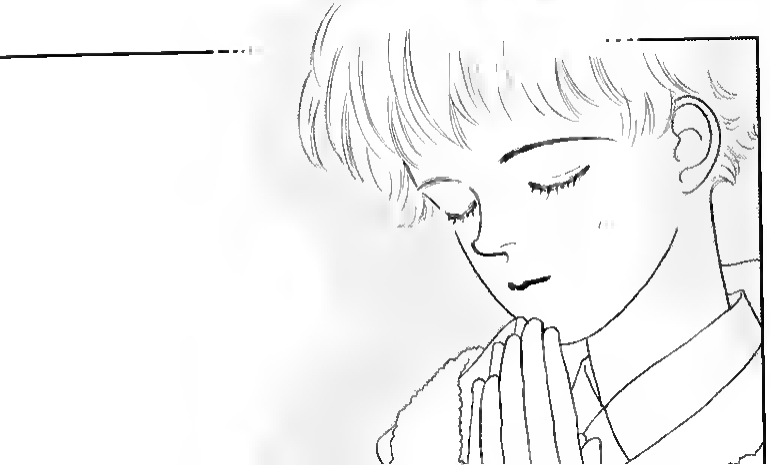

Calm down. It's bad luck to argue on New Year's Day.
RUI! STOP BEING RUDE TO NATSUME!
I DON'T REALLY CARE WHAT YOU THINK
THIS WHOLE 'NEW YEAR SHRINE VISIT' THING IS STUPID, ANYWAY.
DON'T SAY THAT! I THINK IT'S GOOD FOR THE SOUL
IT'S THE START OF A NEW YEAR.
I'M SURE LOTS OF GREAT THINGS WILL HAPPEN TO US THIS YEAR

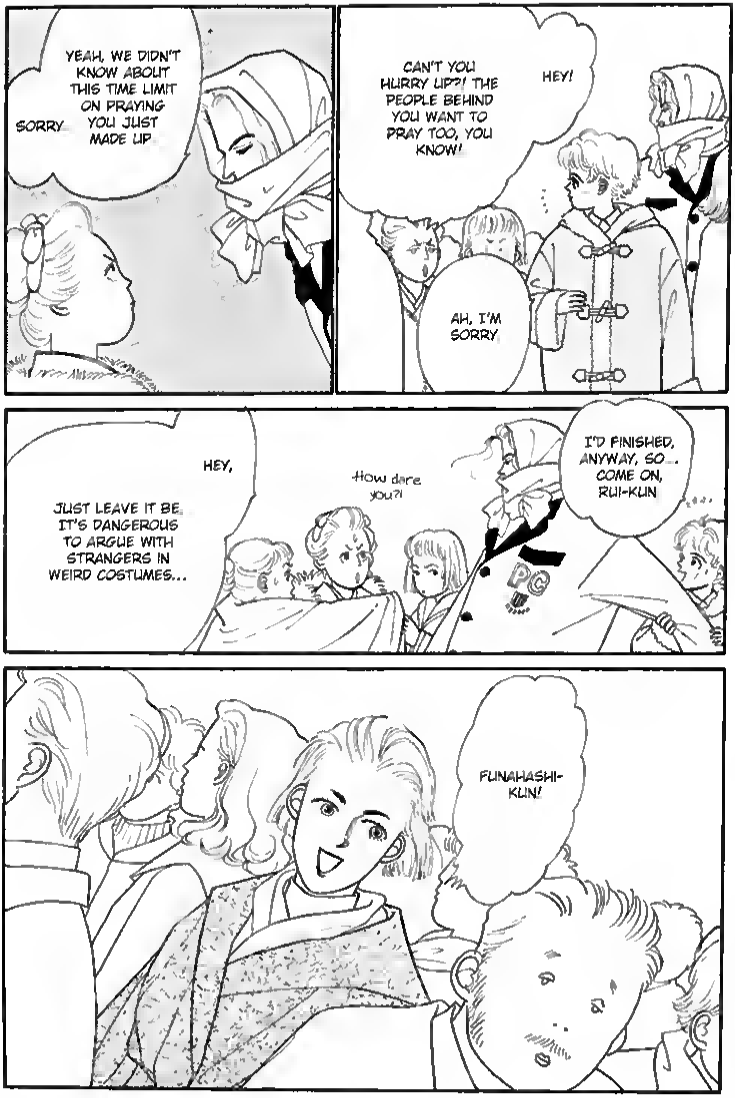
SO THE PLACE WE'RE AIMING AT IS IN FRONT OF ALL THESE PEOPLE?!
YOU'VE GOT TO BE JOKING

RUI-KUN! TO MAKE SURE WE DON'T GET PARTED, CAN I...
OKAY!
MAKE SURE YOU HOLD ON TO ME SO WE DON'T GET PARTED IN THE CROWD
.....
PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR AUTOGRAPH!
I'M YOUR BIGGEST FAN!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'VE FINALLY MET YOU!
7
RUI... KUN...
Ouch! Let go of me dammit!
Check this out!
MMMM!!!

JEEZ, IT'S BEEN OVER AN HOUR ALREADY!
clap
clap
YES
LOOKS LIKE WE MADE IT HERE IN SAFETY... SOMEHOW...
PLEASE, CAN I GET THE PROMOTION EVEN THOUGH I MISSED THAT DEADLINE...
.....
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, RUI-KUN?



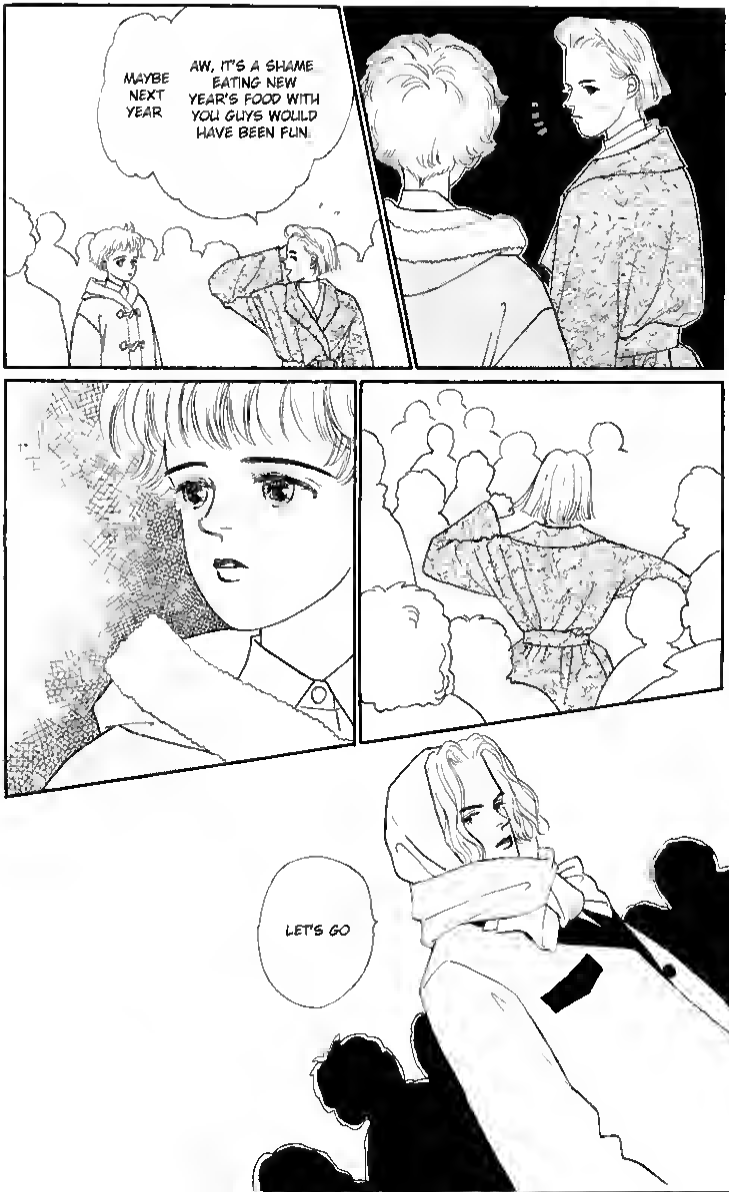



YEAH, WE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS TIME LIMIT ON PRAYING YOU JUST MADE UP
SORRY...
CAN'T YOU HURRY UP?! THE PEOPLE BEHIND YOU WANT TO PRAY TOO, YOU KNOW!
HEY!
AH, I'M SORRY
HEY,
JUST LEAVE IT BE. IT'S DANGEROUS TO ARGUE WITH STRANGERS IN WEIRD COSTUMES...
How dare you?!
I'D FINISHED, ANYWAY, SO... COME ON, RUI-KUN
FUNAHASHI-KUN!

I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'VE MET IN SUCH A LARGE CROWD OF PEOPLE! HOW LUCKY!
OH, HI!
YES. HAPPY NEW YEAR.
I WANT TO WISH YOU A...
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

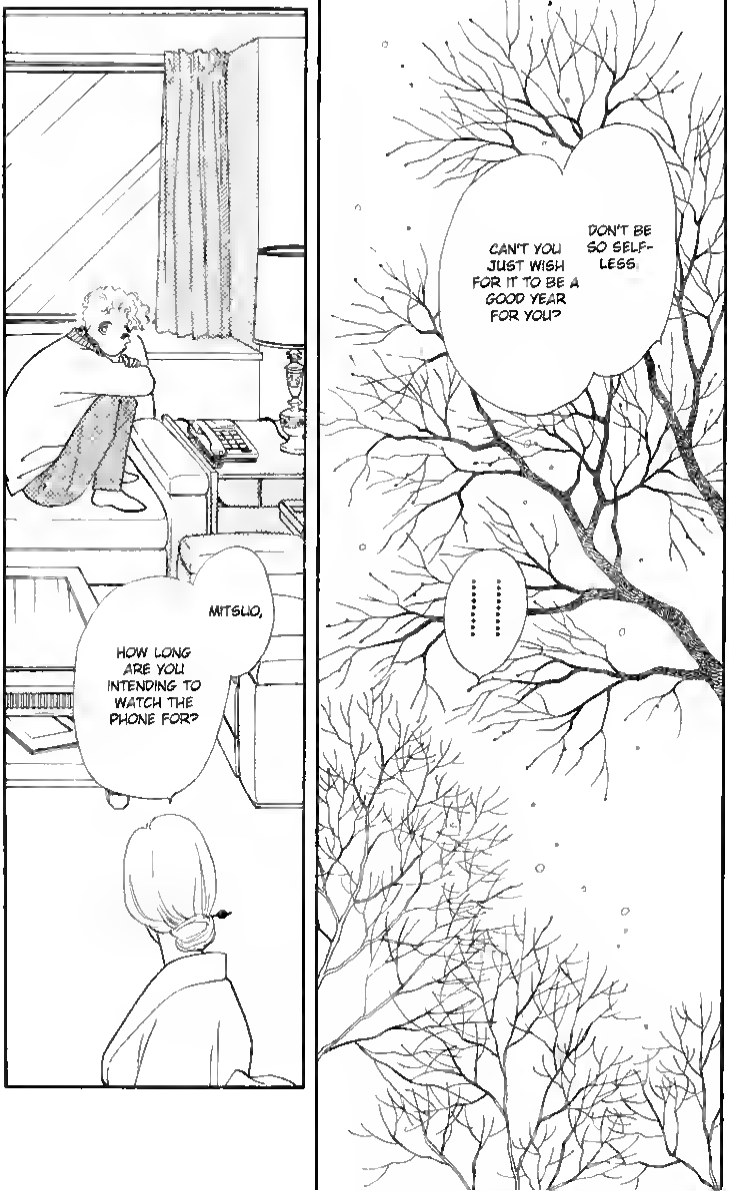
AHH, IT'S ARIMOTO-SAN!
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
HAPPY NEW YEAR.
OH, YOU'RE HIS...
I UNDER-STAND.
WE WERE JUST ABOUT TO GET SOMETHING TO EAT
WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME WITH US?
SORRY.
I'D LOVE TO, BUT I WANT TO PRAY AT THE SHRINE FIRST.
I SEE. THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE, SO TAKE CARE

PLEASE BE CAREFUL! GOODBYE!
SEE YOU SOON.
BYE THEN
IT'S FINE, I'M REALLY STRONG! YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT BY NOW.

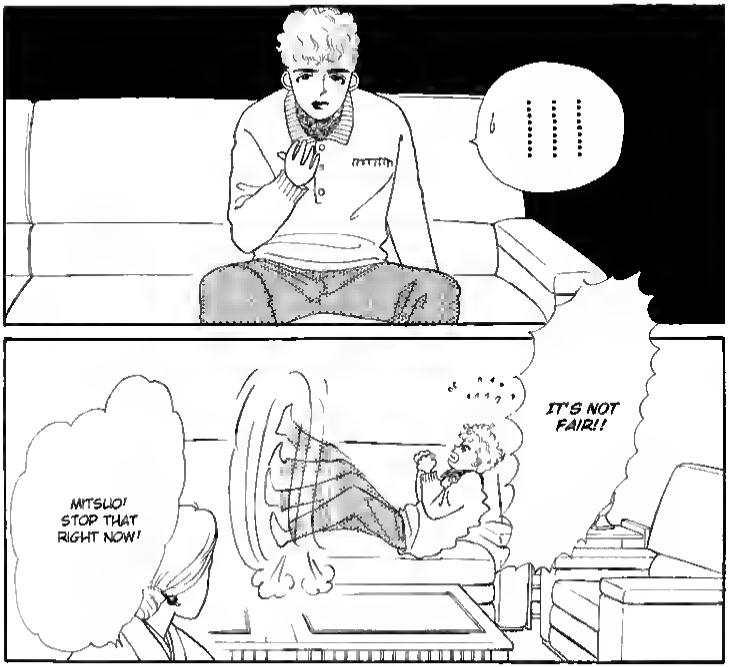

AW, IT'S A SHAME EATING NEW YEAR'S FOOD WITH YOU GUYS WOULD HAVE BEEN FUN.
MAYBE NEXT YEAR
LET'S GO

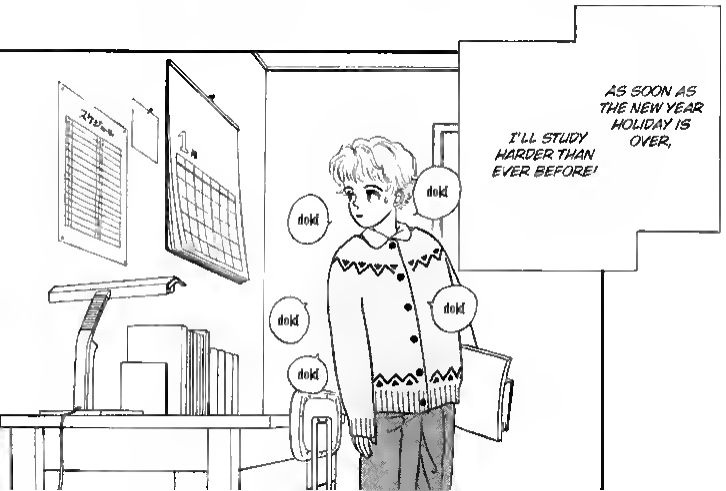
IT'S NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HER.
NATSUMEEEEE!!

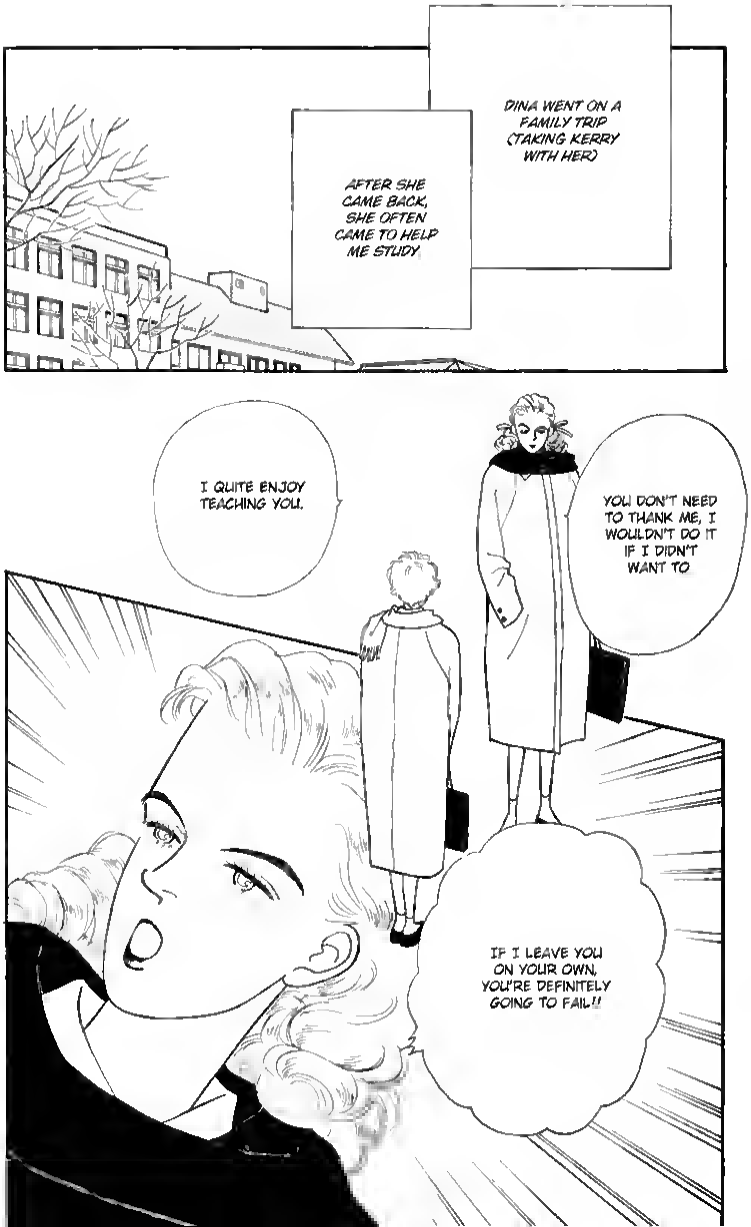
I HOPE...
THIS IS A GOOD YEAR FOR EVERY-ONE...


MITSUO,
HOW LONG ARE YOU INTENDING TO WATCH THE PHONE FOR?
.....
CAN'T YOU JUST WISH FOR IT TO BE A GOOD YEAR FOR YOU?
DON'T BE SO SELF-LESS.

ARE YOU EXPECTING A PHONE CALL?
A WATCHED POT NEVER BOILS, YOU KNOW.
JEEZ, SHE NEVER STOPS NAGGING ME
TSK
I CAN'T WAIT. WHEN SHE PHONES ME, I'LL TELL HER ALL THE BAD THINGS HE DID AT THE LAST SHOOT.
SHE'LL PROBABLY STAND UP FOR HIM, THOUGH.
HEE HEE... OH


.....
IT'S NOT FAIR!!
MITSUO! STOP THAT RIGHT NOW!

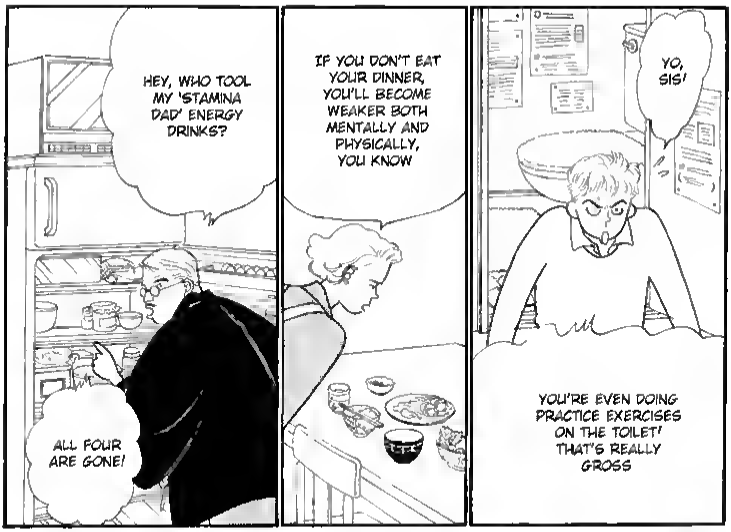

AS SOON AS THE NEW YEAR HOLIDAY IS OVER,
I'LL STUDY HARDER THAN EVER BEFORE!
doki
doki
doki
doki
doki


DINA WENT ON A FAMILY TRIP (TAKING KERRY WITH HER)
AFTER SHE CAME BACK, SHE OFTEN CAME TO HELP ME STUDY
I QUITE ENJOY TEACHING YOU.
YOU DON'T NEED TO THANK ME, I WOULDN'T DO IT IF I DIDN'T WANT TO
IF I LEAVE YOU ON YOUR OWN, YOU'RE DEFINITELY GOING TO FAIL!!

YEAH! I HOPE SO!
DON'T WORRY, I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT!
BUT IF YOU FAIL, I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!
HEY, DINA! THE WORD 'FAIL' IS TABOO IN MY PRESENCE!
DINA HAS...
SHE'S STARTED BEING NICER TO OTHERS,
AND SHE DOESN'T SHOUT AS MUCH.
DEFINITELY CHANGED SINCE WE FIRST MET.
Next

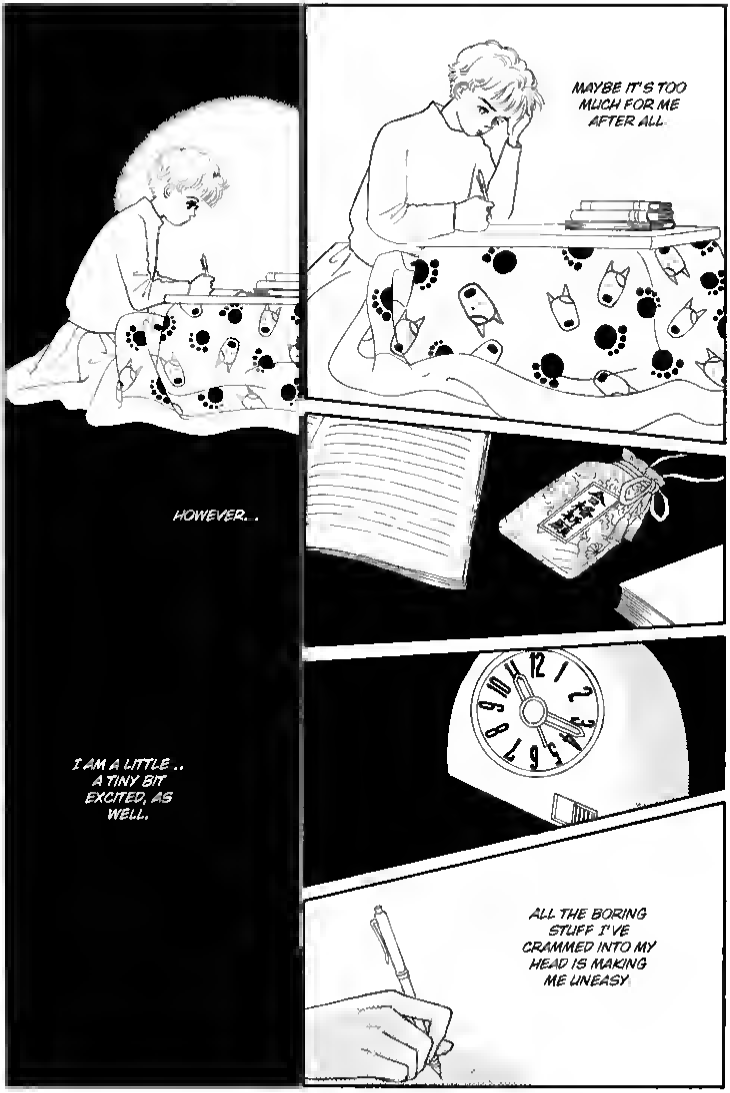
Block head!!

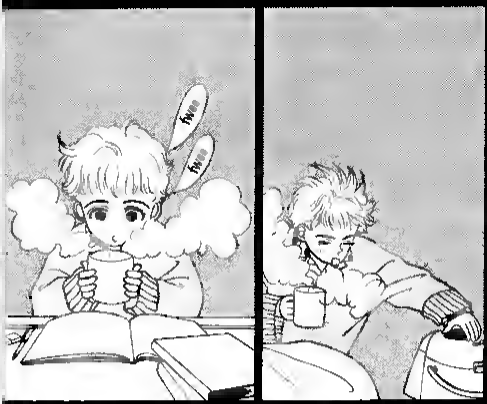
MAYBE SHE HAS GROWN UP A LITTLE.
宇宙ゼミナール


HEY, WHO TOOL MY 'STAMINA DAD' ENERGY DRINKS?
ALL FOUR ARE GONE!
IF YOU DON'T EAT YOUR DINNER, YOU'LL BECOME WEAKER BOTH MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY, YOU KNOW
YO, SIS!
YOU'RE EVEN DOING PRACTICE EXERCISES ON THE TOILET! THAT'S REALLY GROSS

focus
focus
focus

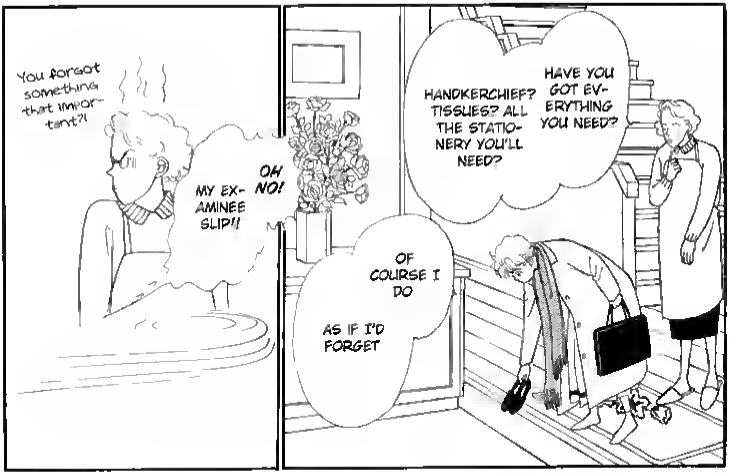
*BUT...*


MAYBE IT'S TOO MUCH FOR ME AFTER ALL.
HOWEVER..
I AM A LITTLE .. A TINY BIT EXCITED, AS WELL.
ALL THE BORING STUFF I'VE CRAMMED INTO MY HEAD IS MAKING ME UNEASY.

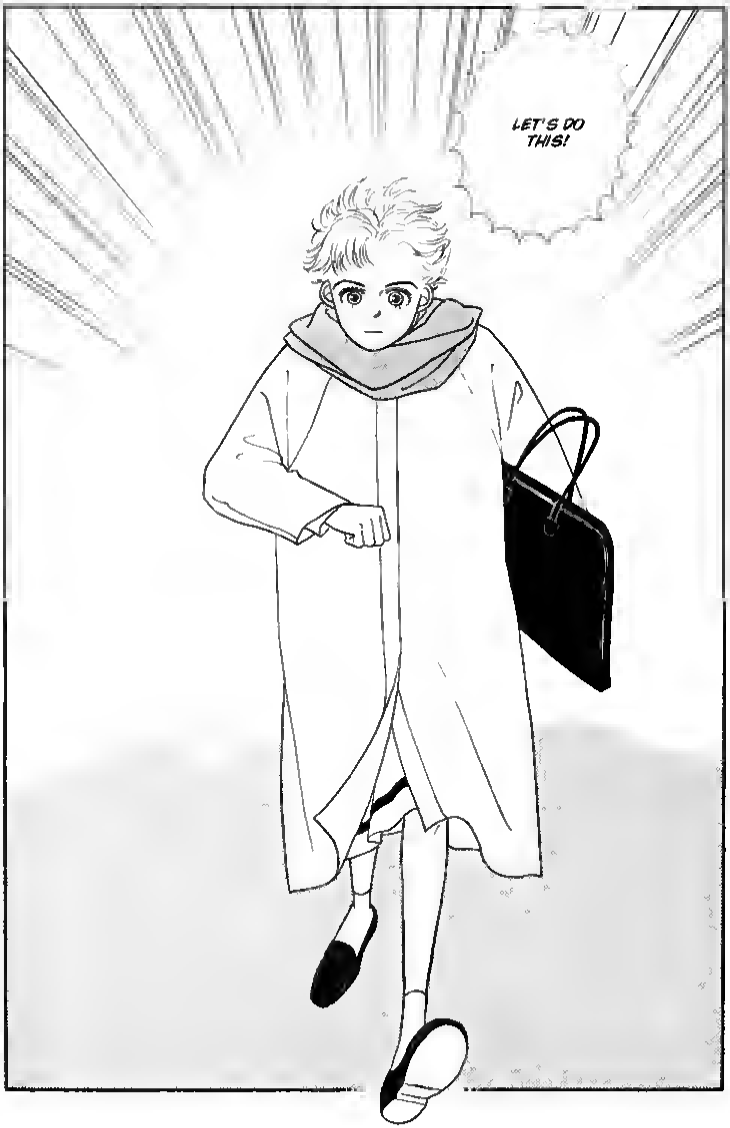

fwee
fwee

AH, IT'S SNOWING

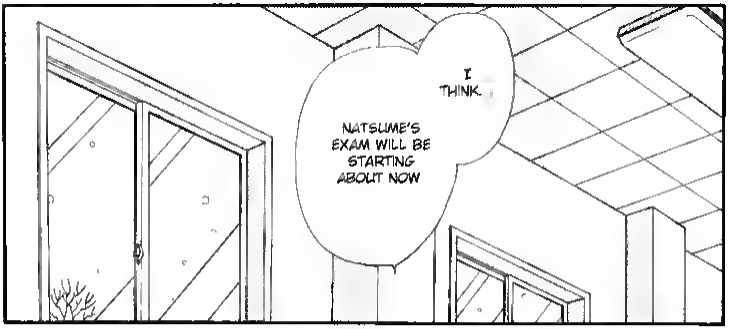
UGH, I'M GOING TO SLIP ON THE WAY TO SCH...
smile
smile
smile


You forgot something that important?!
OH NO!
MY EXAMINEE SLIP!!
HANDKERCHIEF? TISSUES? ALL THE STATIONERY YOU'LL NEED?
HAVE YOU GOT EVERYTHING YOU NEED?
OF COURSE I DO
AS IF I'D FORGET

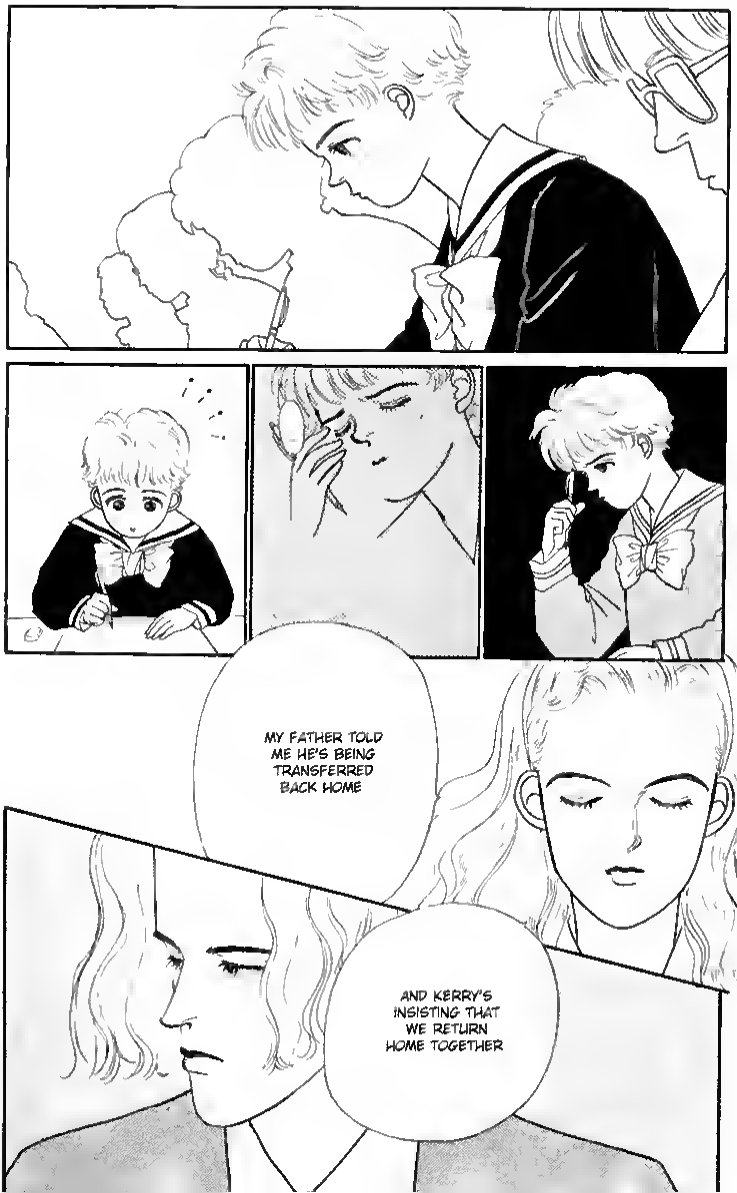
1010
NUMBER 1010, HUH?
SEEMS LIKE A LUCKY NUMBER. AND IT'S EASY TO REMEMBER.

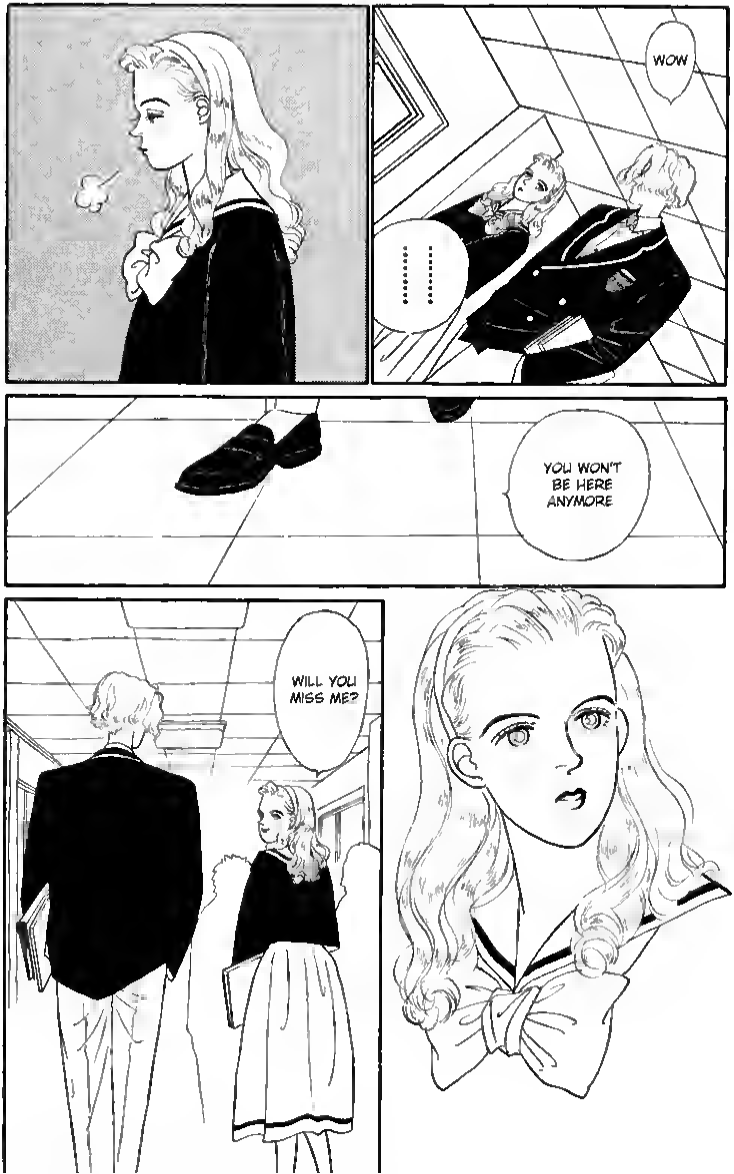

LET'S DO THIS!

*EVERYTHING'S AS WHITE AS SNOW.*



I HOPE SHE DOES WELL
HEY, RUI!
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT...
GOING BACK TO ENGLAND IN THE SPRING

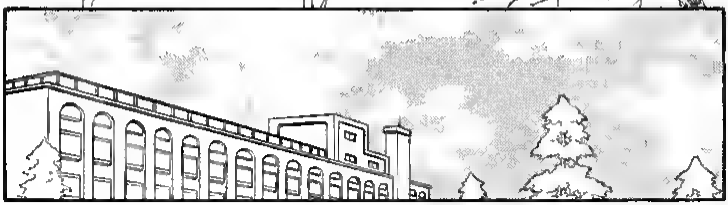

MY FATHER TOLD ME HE'S BEING TRANSFERRED BACK HOME
AND KERRY'S INSISTING THAT WE RETURN HOME TOGETHER

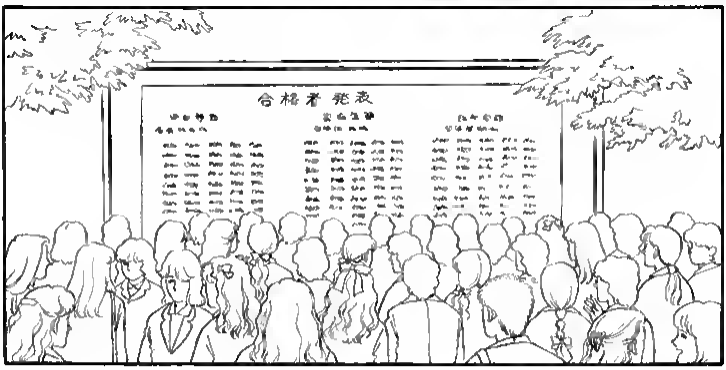

WOW
.....
YOU WON'T BE HERE ANYMORE
WILL YOU MISS ME?

erash

FOR A MOMENT, MY MIND WENT COMPLETELY BLANK, THOUGH
DO YOU THINK YOU DID WELL?
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
I THINK SO! IF NOT, IT'LL BE OKAY, THOUGH BECAUSE I KNOW I DID MY VERY BEST.
YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF YOURSELF. AND NOW YOU CAN RELAX, CAN'T YOU?
YES, YOU DID
HMM... I GUESS SO, BUT THE OTHER PEOPLE LOOKED REALLY SMART..., IT MADE ME FEEL A LITTLE UNEASY.

YOU STILL HAVE THE EXAM OF YOUR SECOND CHOICE TO GO, DON'T YOU?
YES, I DO
LET'S DO OUR BEST, THEN!
YEAH! AND AFTER THE ENTRANCE EXAM IS OVER, LET'S GO SOMETHING FUN.
NATSUME, HOW LONG ARE YOU PLANNING TO STAY ON THE PHONE FOR?!
YES, YES!
KYAHA-HAHA!
NATSU ME!

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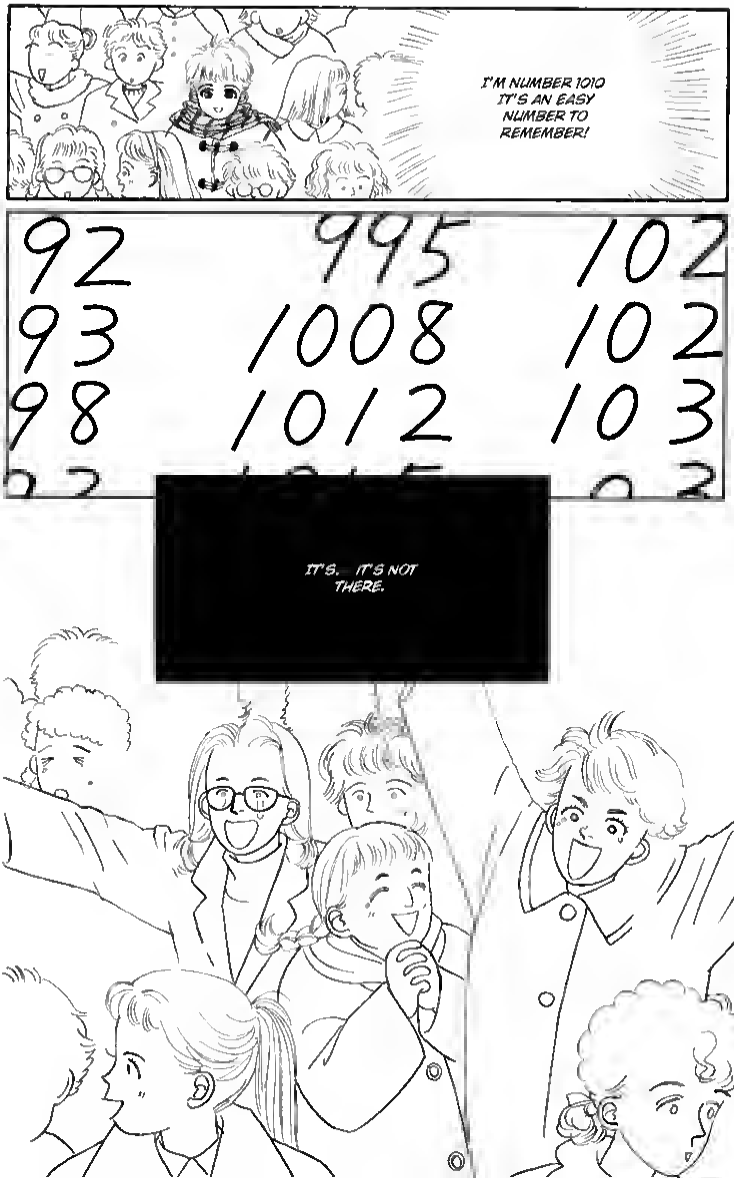
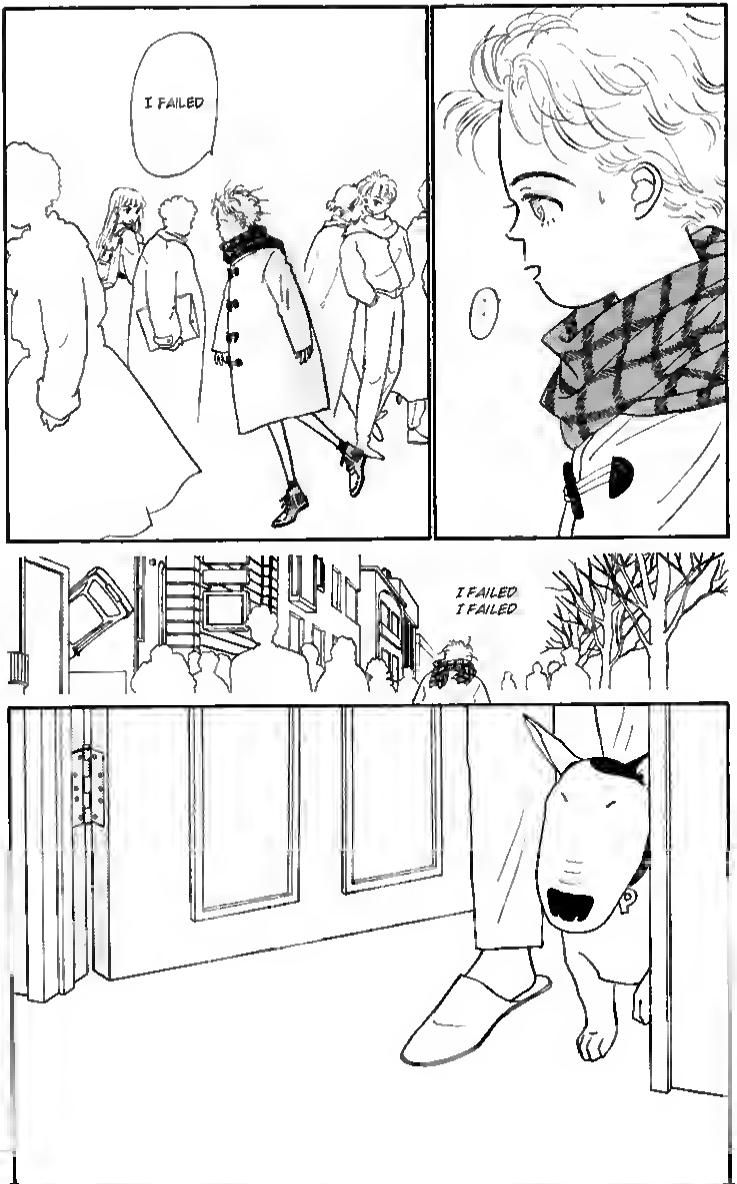

I'M NUMBER 1010
IT'S AN EASY
NUMBER TO
REMEMBER!
92
995
102
93
1008
102
98
1012
103
IT'S. IT'S NOT
THERE.

NEC
SPScan

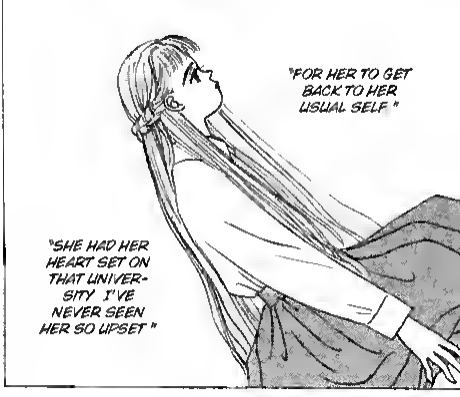

I FAILED
I FAILED
I FAILED

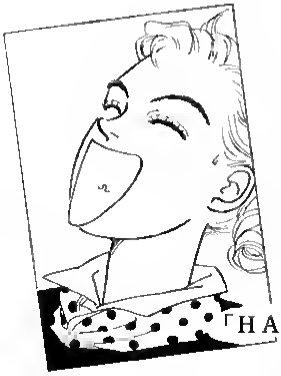
NO PHONE CALL?
SHE'S FAILED, HASN'T SHE? I KNEW IT.

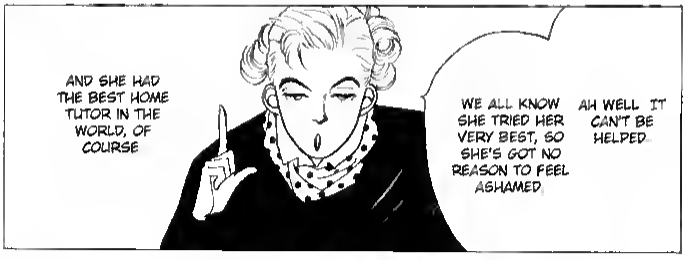
.....
I MADE SOME TEA!
LOOK, SIS! IT'S TWO HOURS LONG!
OH!
OH, I SEE.
THERE'S A NEW VARIETY SHOW STARTING TODAY.

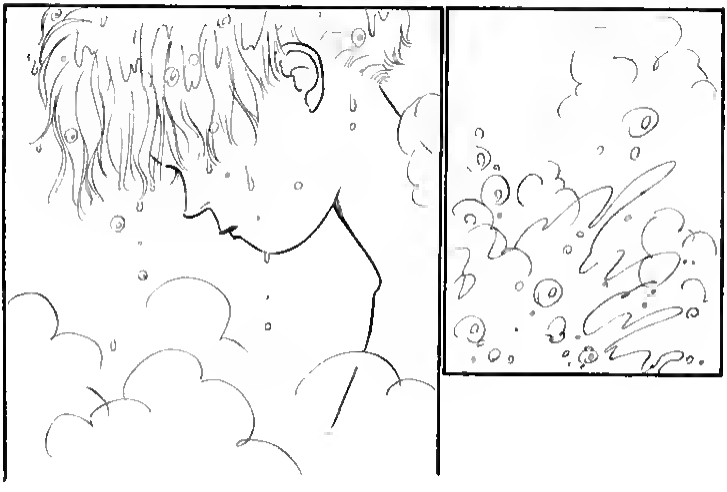
I'M SICK OF YOU CASTING A GLOOM OVER THE WHOLE HOUSE!
COME AND DRINK YOUR TEA!
CUT IT OUT ALREADY!!
I'M GOING TO...
HAVE A BATH
I thought I just told you to cheer up a bit!

"IT'LL TAKE A WHILE"

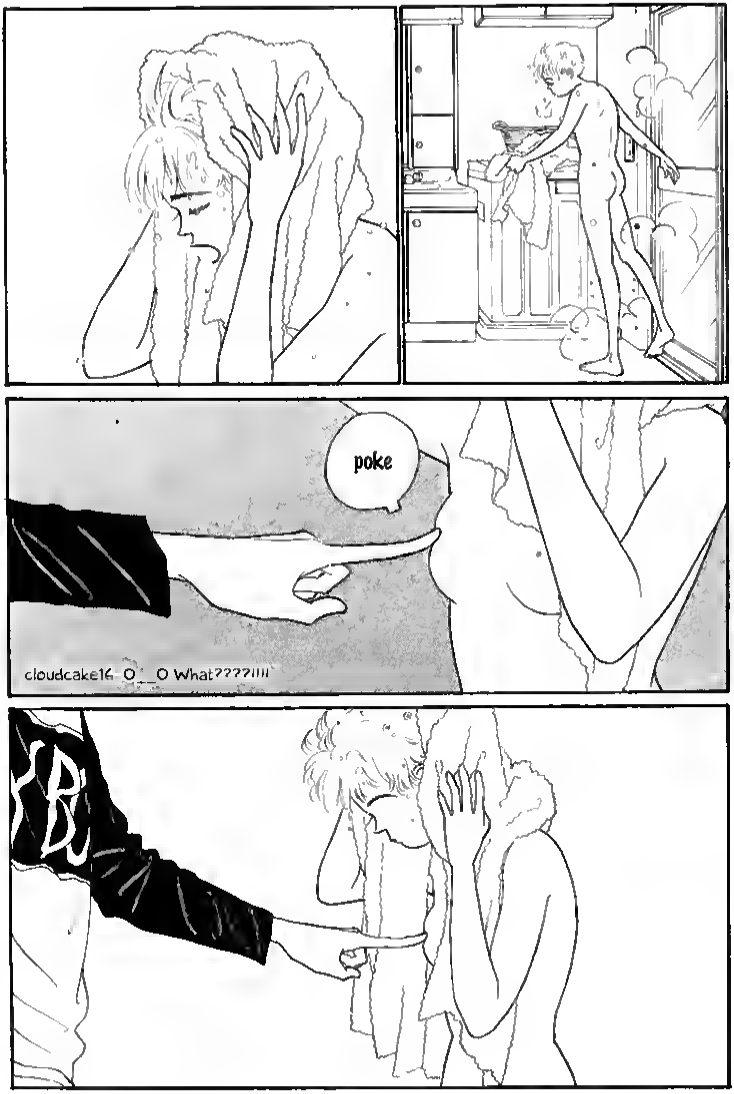

"FOR HER TO GET BACK TO HER USUAL SELF."
"SHE HAD HER HEART SET ON THAT UNIVERSITY. I'VE NEVER SEEN HER SO UPSET."

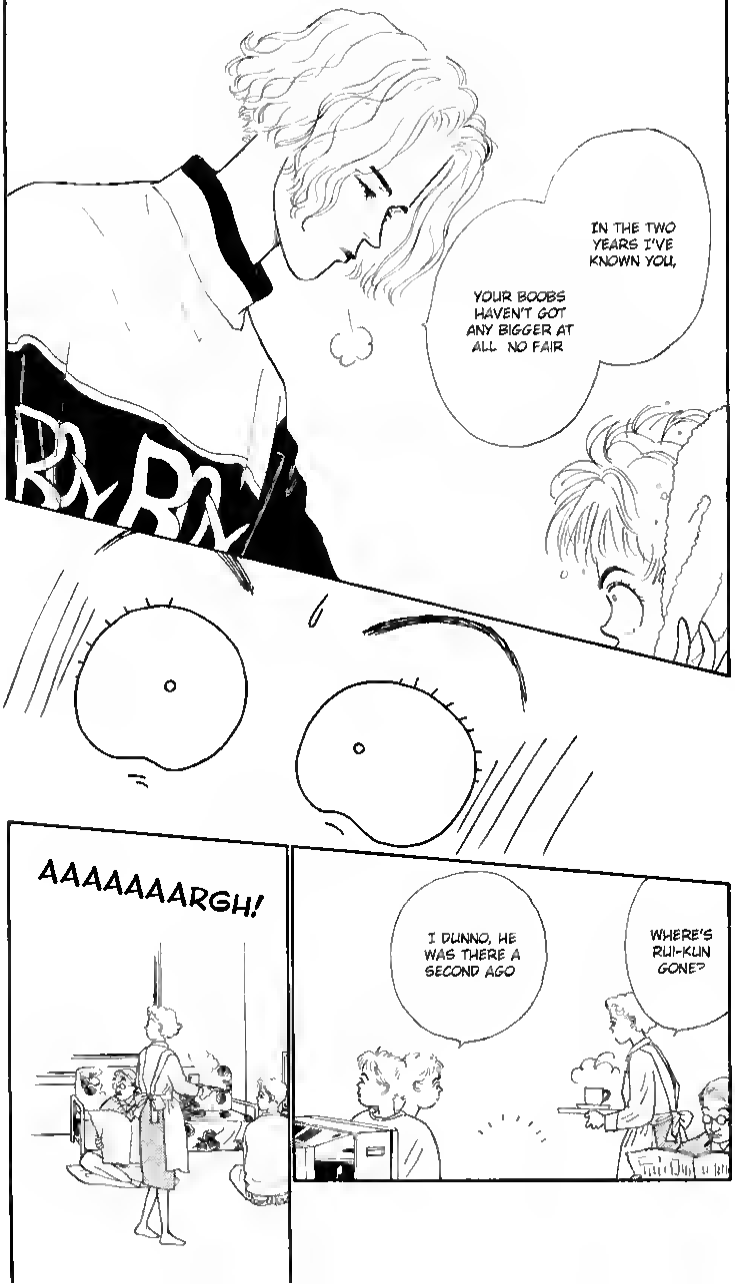

「HA HA HA!」


AND SHE HAD THE BEST HOME TUTOR IN THE WORLD, OF COURSE
WE ALL KNOW SHE TRIED HER VERY BEST, SO SHE'S GOT NO REASON TO FEEL ASHAMED
AH WELL. IT CAN'T BE HELPED

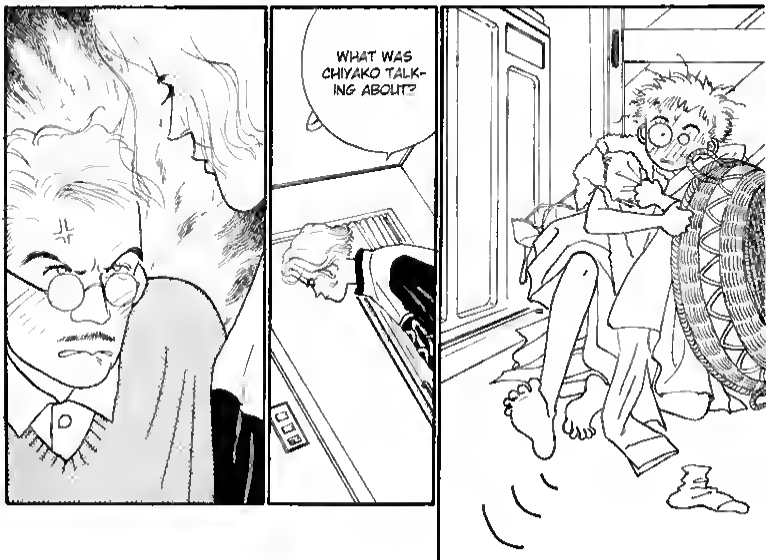


AFTER ALL THAT, I STILL FAILED.

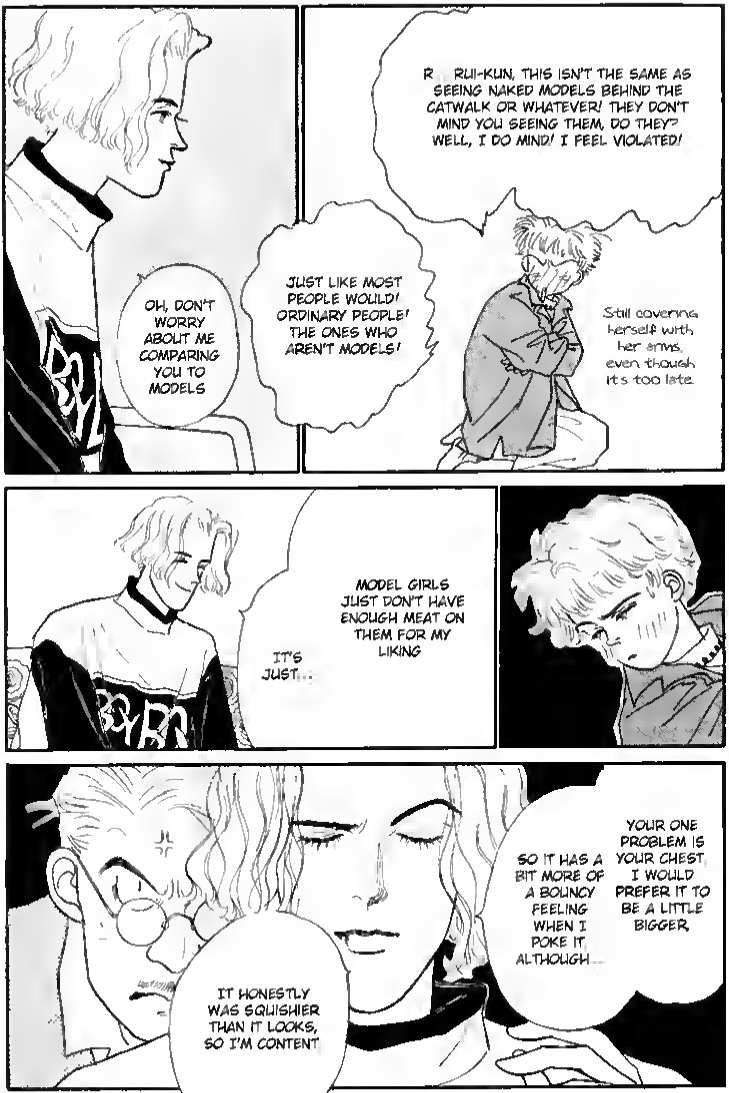

poke
cloudcake16 O'_O What????!!!!


IN THE TWO YEARS I'VE KNOWN YOU,
YOUR BOOBS HAVEN'T GOT ANY BIGGER AT ALL NO FAIR
AAAAAAARGH!
I DUNNO, HE WAS THERE A SECOND AGO
WHERE'S RUI-KUN GONE?

BOY
YOU'VE GOT YOUR ENERGY BACK, I SEE


WHAT WAS CHIYAKO TALK-ING ABOUT?

WAIT! DAD, DON'T...
PEEPING TOM!!
YOU...
LITTLE...
dodge
WHEN WE SAW THEM FACING EACH OTHER,
WE KNEW IMMEDIATELY THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR DAD TO TAKE ON RUI-KUN.
YOU ARE A PERVERT!
YOU'RE LOOKING AT ME LIKE I'M A PERVERT OR SOMETHING!


R... RUI-KUN, THIS ISN'T THE SAME AS SEEING NAKED MODELS BEHIND THE CATWALK OR WHATEVER! THEY DON'T MIND YOU SEEING THEM, DO THEY? WELL, I DO MIND! I FEEL VIOLATED!
Still covering herself with her arms, even though it's too late.
JUST LIKE MOST PEOPLE WOULD! ORDINARY PEOPLE! THE ONES WHO AREN'T MODELS!
OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME COMPARING YOU TO MODELS
MODEL GIRLS JUST DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MEAT ON THEM FOR MY LIKING
IT'S JUST...
YOUR ONE PROBLEM IS YOUR CHEST. I WOULD PREFER IT TO BE A LITTLE BIGGER.
SO IT HAS A BIT MORE OF A BOUNCY FEELING WHEN I POKE IT. ALTHOUGH...
IT HONESTLY WAS SQUISHIER THAN IT LOOKS, SO I'M CONTENT

IT'S A SHAME I WAS INTERRUPTED SO EARLY, ACTUALLY I DIDN'T EVEN GET A CHANCE TO FEEL THEM BOTH..

DOES IT STILL HURT?
YOUR DREAM TO GET INTO A WOMEN'S JUNIOR COLLEGE DIDN'T COME TRUE...

AND YOU'RE NOT WILLING TO GO TO ANOTHER UNIVERSITY?
RIGHT...
NO, I AM.
WHAT WAS CHIYAKO TALKING ABOUT?
JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT BOUNCING OFF THE WALLS LIKE USUAL DOESN'T GIVE HER GROUNDS TO BE THAT WORRIED, AND KNOWING YOU, YOU'LL GET OVER IT COMPLETELY IN A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME.
She calls herself your best friend and yet she doesn't get something so simple?!

THAT'S RIGHT
IT DIDN'T CROSS MY MIND THAT RUI-KUN HAD COME HERE TO CHEER ME UP
BUT, EVEN SO...
HE TOOK IT A LITTLE TOO FAR WITH THAT.
I can't forgive him this easily.

BUT... YOU...
THEY'RE ALONE IN HER BEDROOM, AND HE'S A PERVERT! HE MIGHT
GAH!
IS THERE A BUMP?!
I'M JUST GOING TO PRESS IT TO SEE IF IT STILL HURTS.

THE REASON I WAS UPSET WAS NOT THE FACT THAT I DIDN'T GET INTO THE UNIVERSITY, BUT THE AMOUNT OF EFFORT I WASTED.
SORRY FOR WORRYING YOU.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE BACK TO YOUR USUAL SELF.

OH, SPEAKING OF DINA...
AND DINA WASTED A LOT OF TIME, AS WELL...
A...?
WHAT?!
DINA IS GOING BACK TO...
ENGLAND?!
WHAT ARE YOU SO SURPRISED ABOUT?
IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS INTENDING TO STAY IN JAPAN FOREVER.
THE ORIGINAL PLAN WAS TO GO BACK LAST YEAR.
SO... YOU REALLY ARE GOING?
YES, I REALLY AM

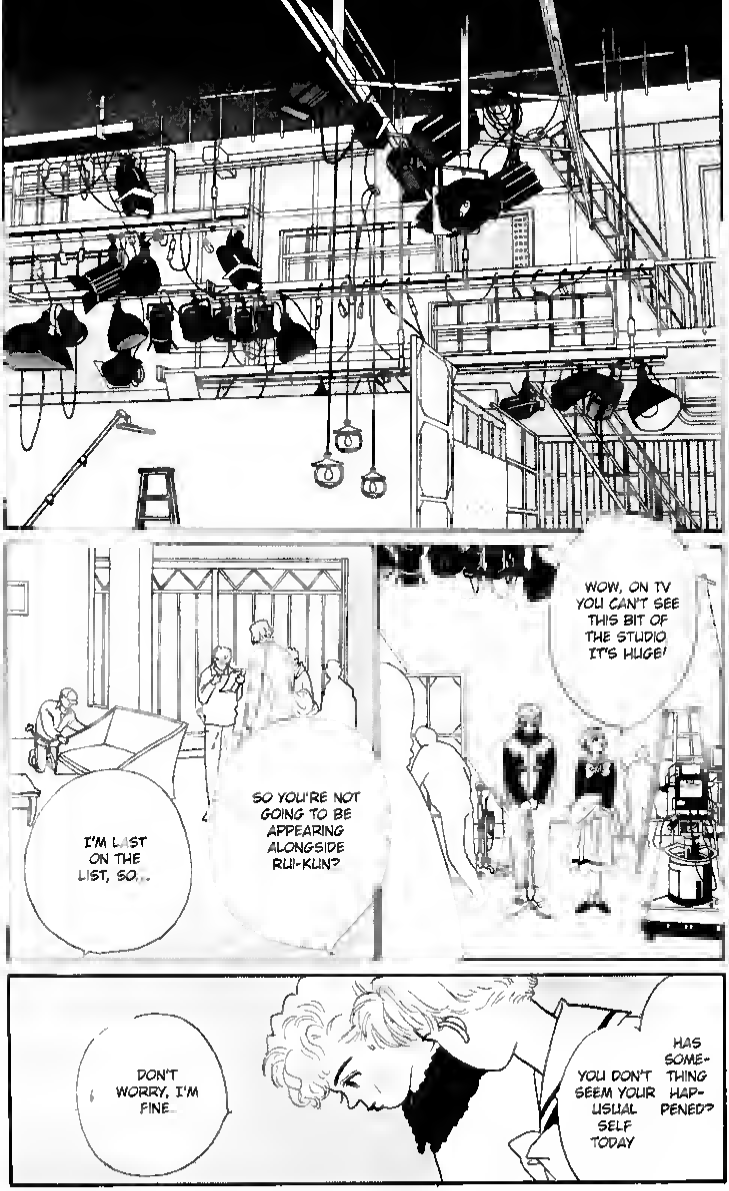
I'M GOING TO MISS YOU, BECAUSE WE'RE FRIENDS NOW
WOAH, DON'T JUST DECIDE SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
NEXT TIME YOU GET A FREE WEEKEND, YOU CAN COME VISIT ME, IF YOU LIKE.
UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S NOT THAT EASY.
THERE ARE LOTS OF COURSES AVAILABLE IF YOU WANTED TO STUDY ABROAD.
YOU COULD COME STAY WITH ME. IT'D BE FUN TO HELP YOU STUDY ENGLISH AGAIN
OR, IF YOU EVER WANT TO DO A HOME STAY IN ENGLAND,

STUDYING ABROAD...
SHE SEEMS TO LIKE THAT IDEA
AHH!!
NAT-SUME--CHAN!
OH, IT'S RUI'S BOSS!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
DO YOU KNOW WHERE RUI IS? I CAME TO PICK HIM UP, BUT HE WASN'T IN HIS CLASSROOM!

HE MIGHT GET INTO ONE OF HIS BAD MOODS WHO KNOWS?
NO, I CAN'T BE SURE OF THAT
I DON'T THINK HE'D TRY TO 'ESCAPE'
THEY'RE SHOOTING IT TODAY! JUST TO MAKE SURE RUI DOESN'T TRY TO ESCAPE, I CAME TO COLLECT HIM.
A FAMOUS LIVE SHOW WANTED TO USE RUI IN THEIR LIVE BROADCAST
THIS IS GREAT!
NOW THAT NATSUME-CHAN IS COMING, RUI WILL WORK EARNESTLY AND WON'T FALL INTO A BAD MOOD!
UH..
THIS IS THE TIME PERIOD BETWEEN DOING THE ENTRANCE EXAM AND ENTERING UNIVERSITY, RIGHT?
WHY DON'T YOU COME ALONG, NATSUME-CHAN?
OH, LOOK
RUI'S OVER THERE
IT'S ALWAYS GOOD TO GET MORE EXPOSURE FOR THE NEWER MODELS
I ASKED ABOUT WHETHER THEY'LL FEATURE MAKITA-KUN, AS WELL

RUN!!!!!!!!!!
DID YOU FORGET ABOUT THE LIVE BROADCAST? I'VE NEVER FORGIVE YOU IF YOU DID! GO THE THE SCHOOL GATES, RIGHT NOW!
SHE CAME TO GET ME.

AH.
I'M SORRY I'M LATE
HI THERE!
MAKITA-KUN!
RELAX, RELAX!
IT'S OKAY, JUST PRETEND YOU'RE STANDING IN FRONT OF A NORMAL CAMERA, NOT A TV ONE
ARE YOU NER-VOUS?
NO, IT HASN'T
OH, LOOK, YOUR FACE HAS GONE RED

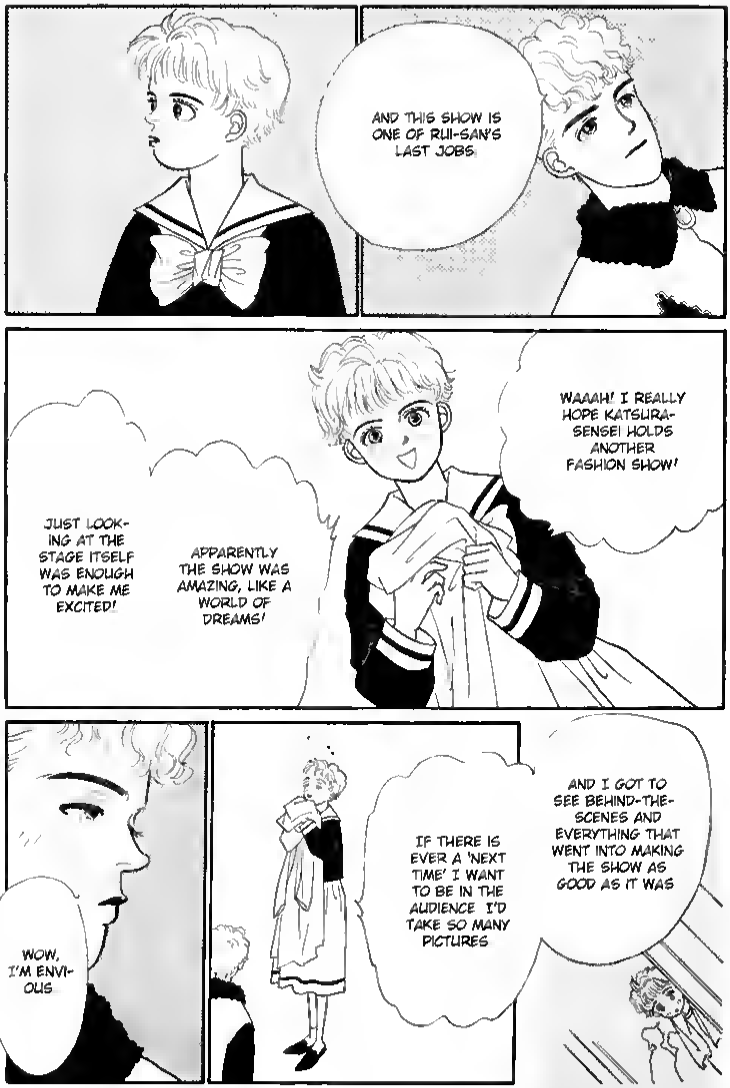

WOW, ON TV YOU CAN'T SEE THIS BIT OF THE STUDIO IT'S HUGE!
SO YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BE APPEARING ALONGSIDE RUI-KUN?
I'M LAST ON THE LIST, SO...
HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED?
YOU DON'T SEEM YOUR USUAL SELF TODAY
DON'T WORRY, I'M FINE.

NO WONDER YOU LIKE HIM SO MUCH
RUI-SAN REALLY IS EXTRAORDINARY, ISN'T HE?
IT'S JUST THAT...
I THINK YOU NEED TO CHEER UP, THOUGH. THE BOSS IS COUNTING ON YOU
YOU'RE GETTING THE CHANCE TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF ON TELEVISION!

KATSURA-SENSEI!
HEY, HOW ARE YOU?
I HEARD THAT RUI IS ALSO GOING TO RESIGN FROM THE INDUSTRY
NO, I QUIT... SORT OF
ARE YOU STILL RUI'S MANAGER?
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DID FOR RUI-KUN BACK THEN
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE PARIS!
I'M ALSO GRATEFUL FOR YOU. EVERYONE KNEW YOU AS THE GIRL WHO WORKED REALLY HARD...
THAT'S NO GOOD. THANKS TO HIM, THE PARIS SHOW WAS EVEN MORE OF A SUCCESS THAN WE HAD HOPED.

.....
I had a lot of fun though.
?
RIGHT!
YOU WOULD BE. .
KATSURA-SENSEI!

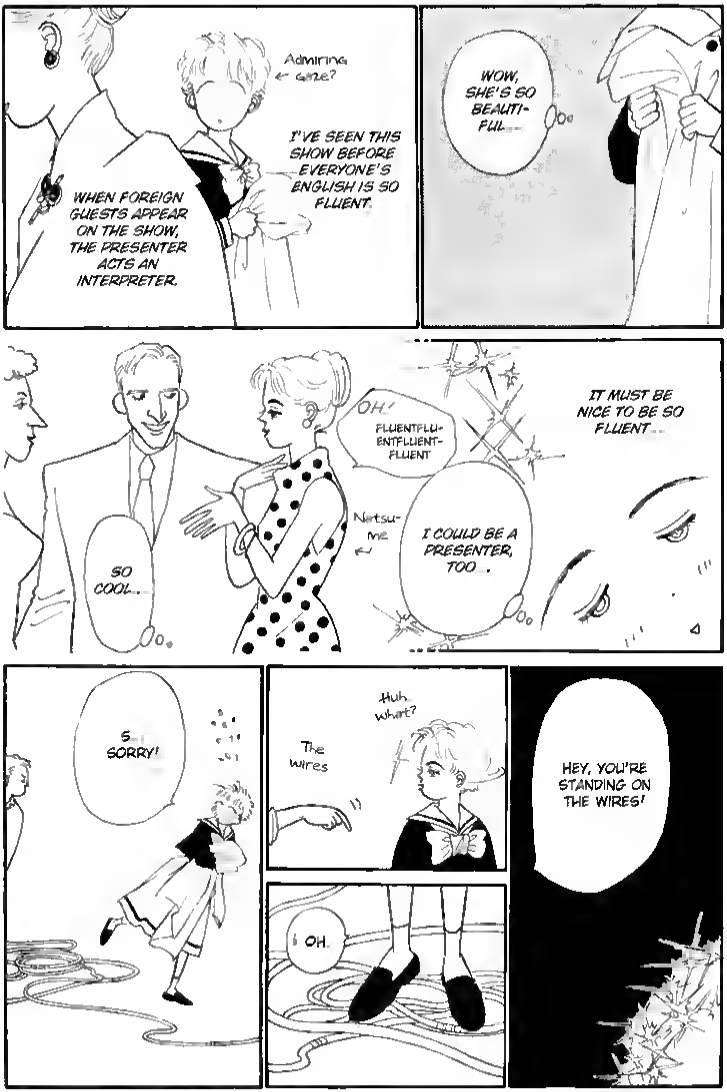
?
OKAY THEN, BYE BYE!
SORRY, I'LL SPEAK TO YOU LATER
SORRY, BUT WE NEED YOU OVER HERE TO SORT SOMETHING OUT!
I WENT TO PARIS WITH RUI TO HELP OUT WITH THE FASHION EVENT.
NATSUME-SAN, YOU KNOW KATSURA RYUUICHI?!
THAT WAS AMAZING!!
HE'S A REALLY FRIENDLY GUY.
DIDN'T YOU KNOW? THE MAIN PART OF THIS EPISODE REVOLVES AROUND KATSURA-SENSEI'S PART OF THAT EVENT. THAT'S WHY HE'S HERE.
BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE HIM HERE. IT SURPRISED ME A LITTLE.

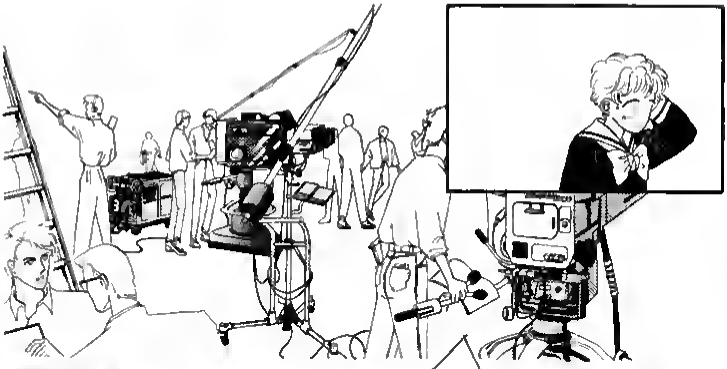

AND THIS SHOW IS ONE OF RUI-SAN'S LAST JOBS
WAAAH! I REALLY HOPE KATSURA-SENSEI HOLDS ANOTHER FASHION SHOW!
JUST LOOK-ING AT THE STAGE ITSELF WAS ENOUGH TO MAKE ME EXCITED!
APPARENTLY THE SHOW WAS AMAZING, LIKE A WORLD OF DREAMS!
WOW, I'M ENVI-OUS
IF THERE IS EVER A 'NEXT TIME' I WANT TO BE IN THE AUDIENCE I'D TAKE SO MANY PICTURES
AND I GOT TO SEE BEHIND-THE-SCENES AND EVERYTHING THAT WENT INTO MAKING THE SHOW AS GOOD AS IT WAS

WITH MAGAZINE WORK AND GRAVURE SHOTS, YOU CAN'T SEE THE HEIGHT OF THE MODEL
BUT ON A STAGE, IT'S REALLY OBVIOUS. AND I'M SIMPLY TOO SHORT.
I'M 10 CENTI-METRES TOO SHORT TO DO CATWALK JOBS
THERE ARE OTHER TYPES OF MODELLING WORK, WHERE IT DOESN'T MATTER.
BUT YOU'RE STILL GROWING, AREN'T YOU?
RUI-KUN HAS GROWN 10 CENTI-METRES SINCE ENTERING HIGH SCHOOL.
YOU KNOW, YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO FIT RUI-SAN INTO ANY CONVERSATION.
MAKITA-KUN!
COME HERE, THEY NEED TO DISCUSS THE TIMING ARRANGEMENTS WITH YOU.
RIGHT.

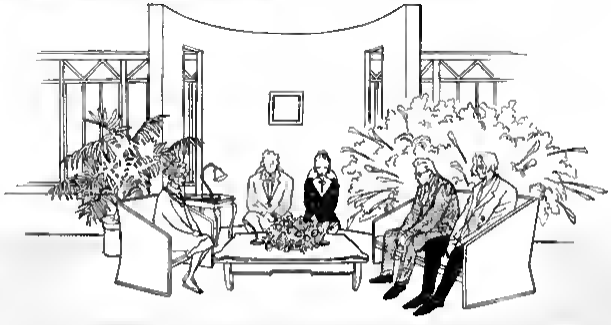
THE PERSON IN CHARGE IS CALLED YAMAZAWA-SAN
HE'S OVER THERE
WHAT WERE YOU TALKING TO NATSUME ABOUT?
WE DISCUSSED KATSUHIRO RYUUICHI-SAN'S SHOW.
Rui-kun is standing next to
OH, YOU'RE BLUSHING AGAIN.
YOU'RE A STRANGE GUY, YOU KNOW. HOW COME YOU'RE BLUSHING NOW, BUT NOT WHEN YOU WERE ACTUALLY TALKING TO HER?
RUI! MAKITA-KUN!
OR MAYBE I'M THE ONE YOU'VE GOT A CRUSH O...
I'M NOT BLUSHING
:

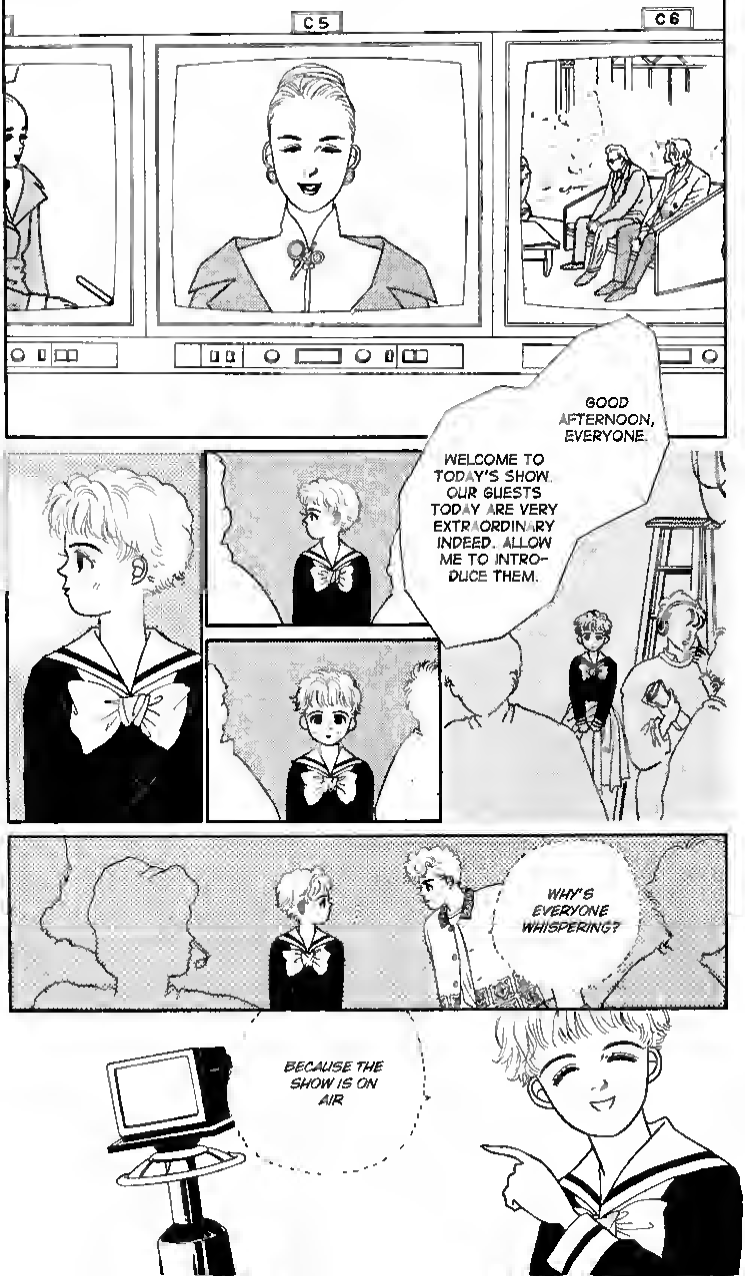
Rui-kun, you need to get changed quickly!
BOTH OF YOU! LISTEN WHEN THINGS ARE BEING EXPLAINED TO YOU!
THEY'RE IN TROUBLE ALREADY.
WILL THIS LIVE BROADCAST RUN SMOOTHLY?
THAT'S THE PRESENTER, TANIGUCHI MIE-SAN.


Admiring ← gaze?
I'VE SEEN THIS SHOW BEFORE EVERYONE'S ENGLISH IS SO FLUENT.
WHEN FOREIGN GUESTS APPEAR ON THE SHOW, THE PRESENTER ACTS AN INTERPRETER.
WOW, SHE'S SO BEAUTI-FUL...
SO COOL...
OH!
FLUENTFLU-ENTFLUENT-FLUENT
Natsu-me ←
I COULD BE A PRESENTER, TOO.
IT MUST BE NICE TO BE SO FLUENT...
S...SORRY!
Huh, what?
The wires
OH.
HEY, YOU'RE STANDING ON THE WIRES!

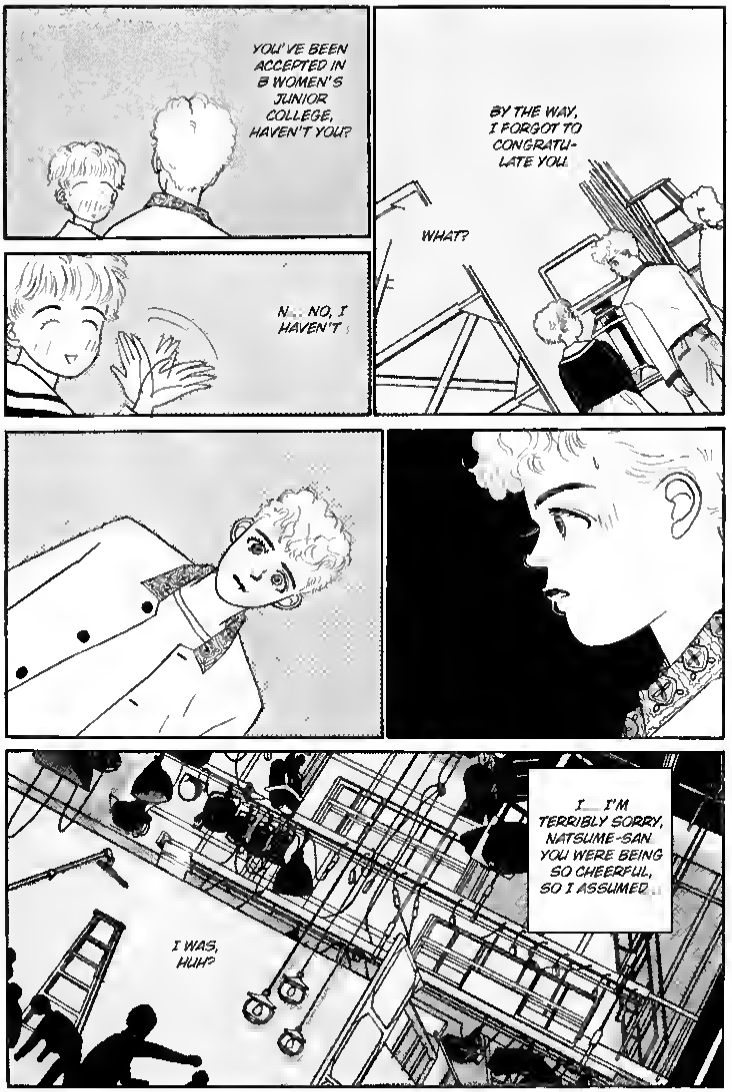


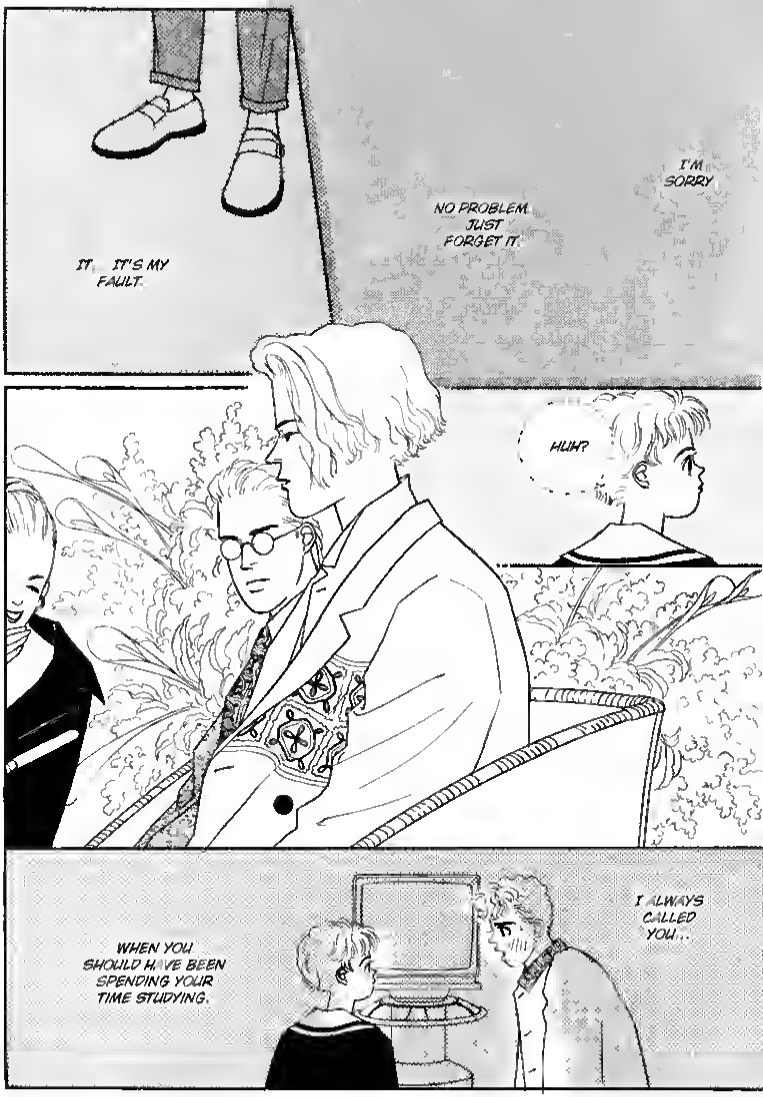
THE SHOW IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.
1
2
3
4




C5
C6
GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE.
WELCOME TO TODAY'S SHOW. OUR GUESTS TODAY ARE VERY EXTRAORDINARY INDEED. ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE THEM.
WHY'S EVERYONE WHISPERING?
BECAUSE THE SHOW IS ON AIR

SHHHHH!
SHHHHH!
SEEMS LIKE THEY HAVE LOTS OF INTERESTING GUESTS

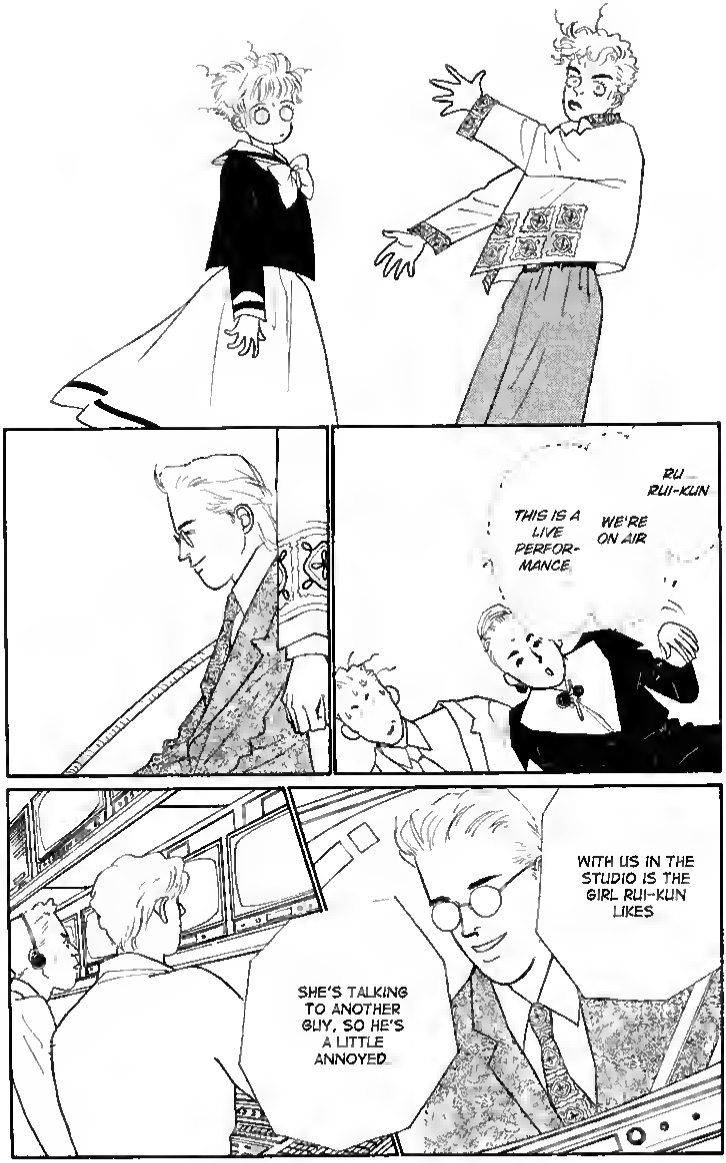

YOU'VE BEEN ACCEPTED IN A WOMEN'S JUNIOR COLLEGE, HAVEN'T YOU?
N... NO, I HAVEN'T.
BY THE WAY, I FORGOT TO CONGRATULATE YOU.
WHAT?
I... I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, NATSUME-SAN. YOU WERE BEING SO CHEERFUL, SO I ASSUMED...
I WAS, HUH?

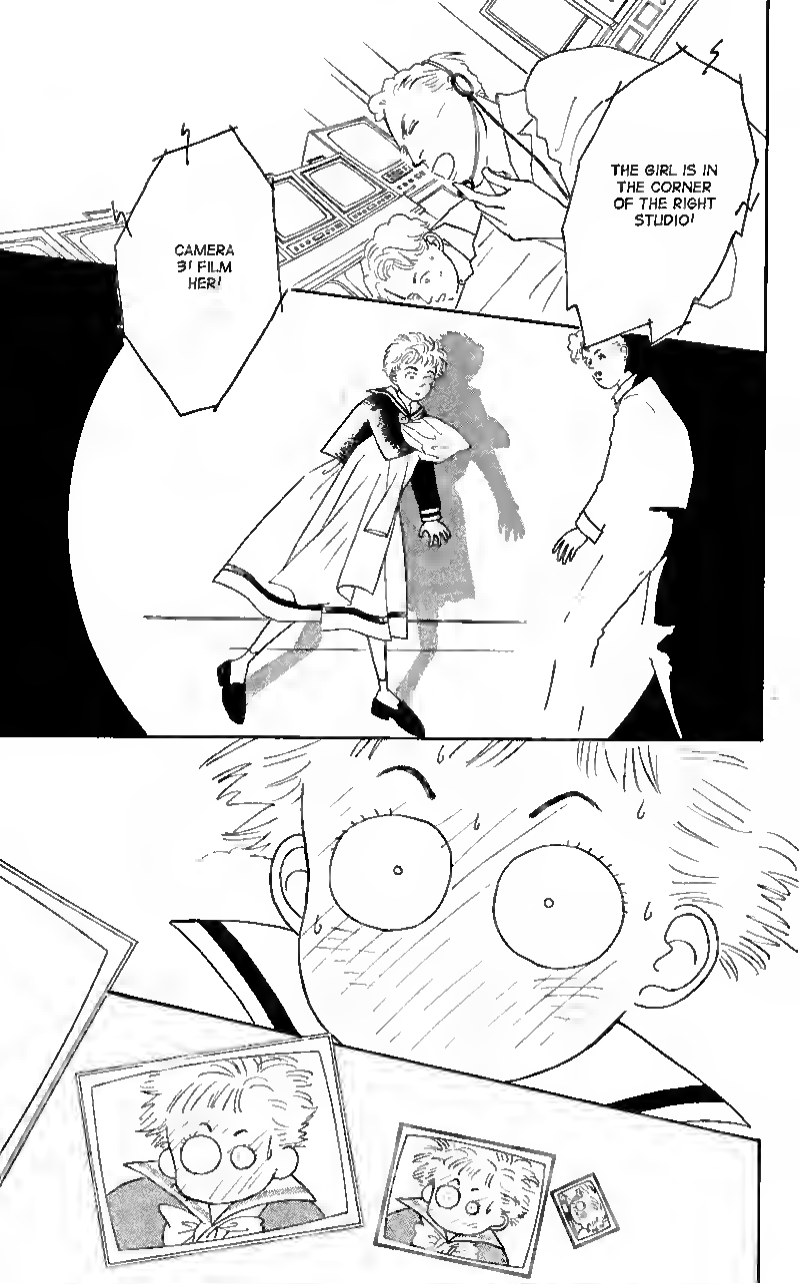

IT... IT'S MY FAULT.
NO PROBLEM. JUST FORGET IT.
I'M SORRY
HUH?
WHEN YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN SPENDING YOUR TIME STUDYING.
I ALWAYS CALLED YOU...

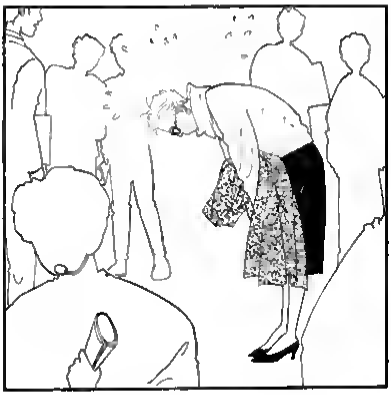
NO WAY.
IT WAS COMPLETELY UNRELATED.
BY THE WAY, RUI-KUN.
I HEARD THAT THIS WOULD BE YOUR LAST TIME BEING A MODEL FOR KATSURA-SAN?
WHAT A PITY.
ACTUALLY, I'M YOUR FAN.

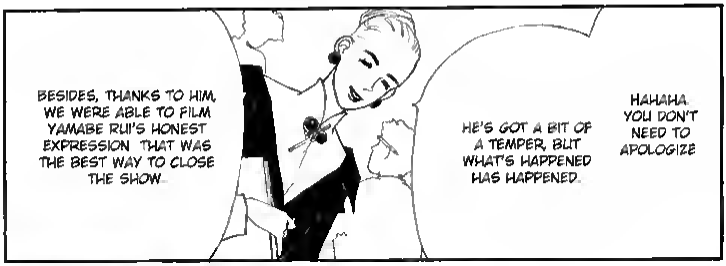
BECAUSE YOU'RE STILL A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, IT'S TOO HARD FOR YOU TO DO EVERYTHING AT ONCE, RIGHT?
Kui? Why don't you answer the questions?
I'm so sorry
IT WAS A PITY, BUT IT CAN'T BE HELPED
LOOKS LIKE WE CAN'T FORCE YOU TO CONTINUE THIS JOB.

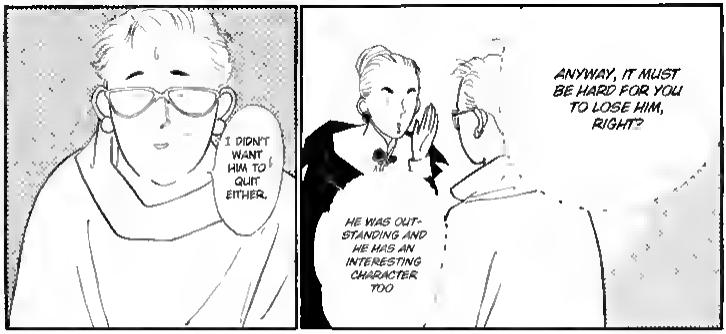
It's him again!
DON'T YOU DARE TOUCH NATSUME!


RU...
RUI-KUN
WE'RE ON AIR
THIS IS A LIVE PERFOR-MANCE
WITH US IN THE STUDIO IS THE GIRL RUI-KUN LIKES
SHE'S TALKING TO ANOTHER GUY, SO HE'S A LITTLE ANNOYED


CAMERA 3! FILM HER!
THE GIRL IS IN THE CORNER OF THE RIGHT STUDIO!




BESIDES, THANKS TO HIM, WE WERE ABLE TO FILM YAMABE RUI'S HONEST EXPRESSION. THAT WAS THE BEST WAY TO CLOSE THE SHOW.
HE'S GOT A BIT OF A TEMPER, BUT WHAT'S HAPPENED HAS HAPPENED.
HAHAHA. YOU DON'T NEED TO APOLOGIZE


I DIDN'T WANT HIM TO QUIT EITHER.
HE WAS OUTSTANDING AND HE HAS AN INTERESTING CHARACTER TOO
ANYWAY, IT MUST BE HARD FOR YOU TO LOSE HIM, RIGHT?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW, MISS MANAGER?
THANKS TO YOU, I CAN'T WALK IN THE CITY ANYMORE
.....
Anyway, it was all your fault
HE'S SCARY
.....
NOBODY WILL REMEMBER YOUR ORDINARY FACE ANYWAY
IT'LL BE FINE
HEY!
WHATEVER. LET'S JUST GO HOME

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MODEL FOR MY SHOW NEXT MONTH?
WAIT A SEC! I NEED TO TALK TO YOU!
MAKITA-KUN!

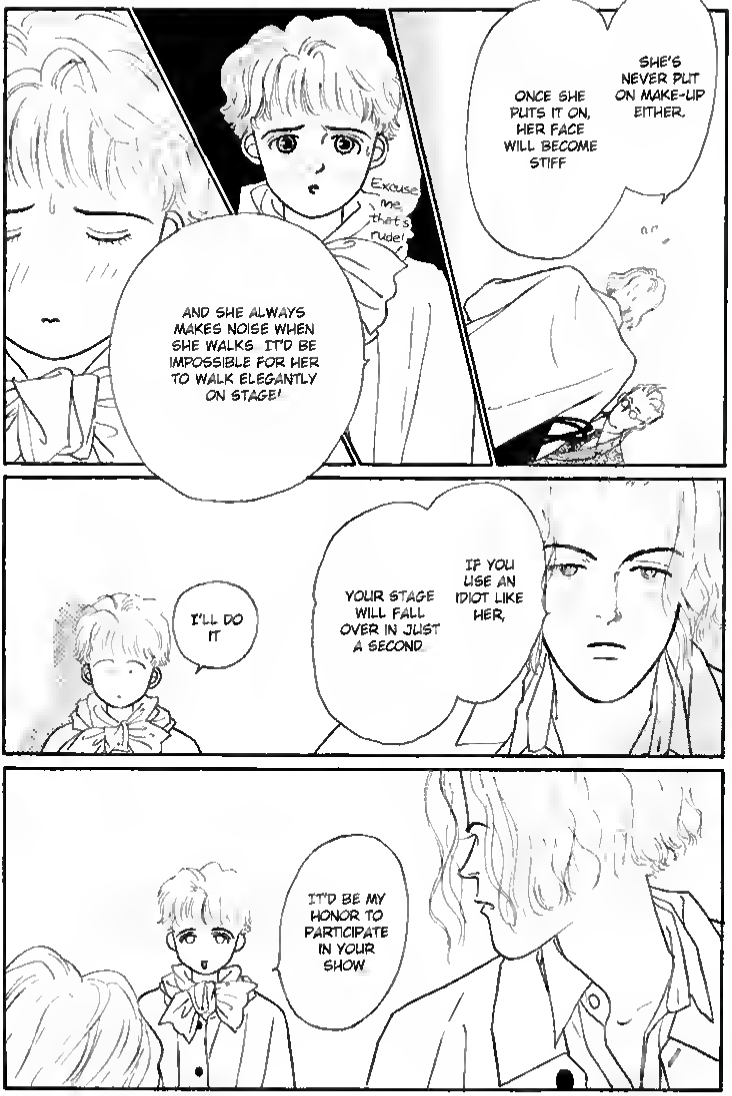
I DON'T THINK KATSURA-SENSEI WAS ASKING MAKITA, BUT I MAY BE WRONG.
.....
UM...
CONGRATULATIONS! YOU DID IT! YOU'VE GOT THE JOB OF MODELING FOR KATSURA-SENSEI'S NEW COLLECTION!
AWE-SOME!
NO, NO
I WASN'T TALKING ABOUT HIM... I MEANT YOU
NA, NATSUME-KUN!
HUH?

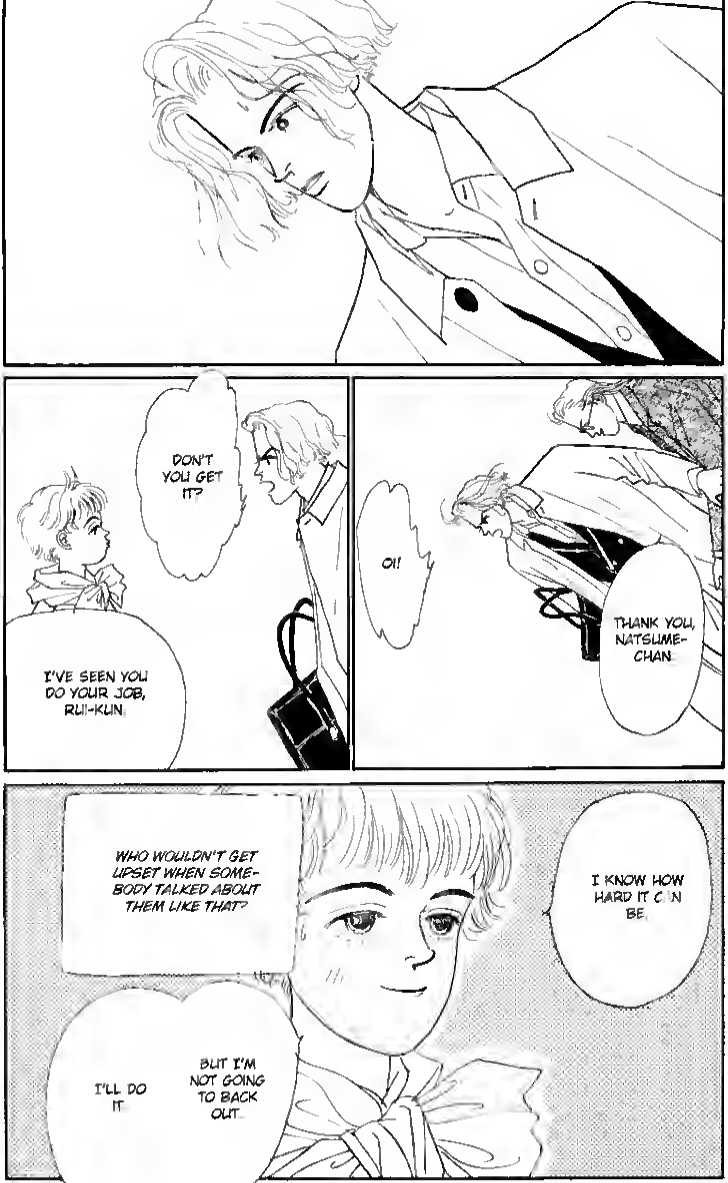
NATSUME-KUN.
I'M ASKING YOU IN PERSON
SO I WAS RIGHT

I WANT YOU TO BE ONE OF THE MODELS
No way You must be kidding right?
I'M CERTAIN

ACTU-ALLY...
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS TOO
HUH?
KATSU-RA--SENSEI
PLEASE COME WITH ME
IF WE CAN PULL NATSUME-CHAN IN, RII MIGHT NOT WANT TO QUIT FROM MODELING, BUT .
I SERIOUSLY WANT TO USE HER AS ONE OF MY MODELS.
HAHAHA THAT'S NOT WHAT I HAD IN MIND
I OBJECT.
THIS TIME'S, MY COLLECTION HAS A DIFFERENT PATTERN THAN USUAL.
SHE CAN JUST EXPRESS HERSELF FREELY.

I MEAN.
SHE ALWAYS FREAKED OUT ANY-TIME SHE SAW NAKED MODELS,
THERE'LL BE A LOT OF PEOPLE IN THE CHANGING ROOM, WON'T THERE?
BESIDES, WHAT ONE EARTH ARE YOU THINKING, HAVING HER AS ONE OF YOUR MODELS?
SHE'S NOT GONNA MAKE THE CLOTHES YOU DESIGN LOOK GOOD

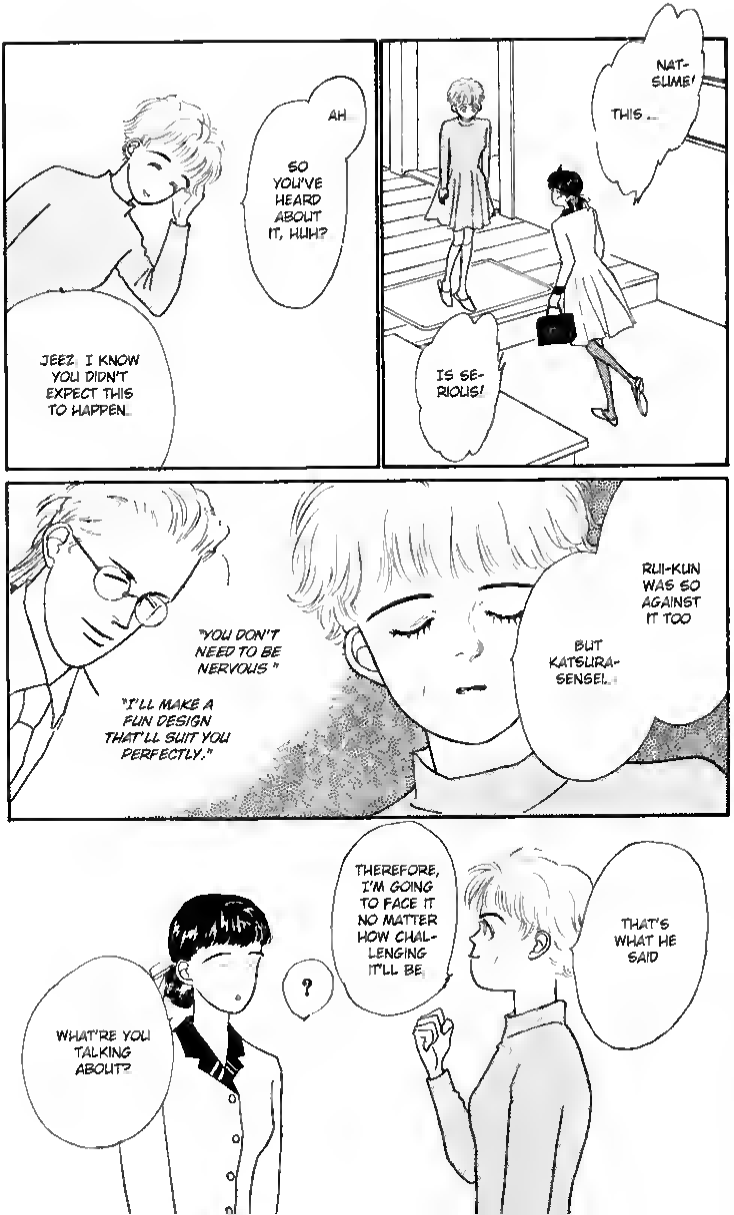

SHE'S NEVER PUT ON MAKE-UP EITHER.
ONCE SHE PUTS IT ON, HER FACE WILL BECOME STIFF
Excuse me, that's rude!
AND SHE ALWAYS MAKES NOISE WHEN SHE WALKS. IT'D BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR HER TO WALK ELEGANTLY ON STAGE!
IF YOU USE AN IDIOT LIKE HER,
YOUR STAGE WILL FALL OVER IN JUST A SECOND.
I'LL DO IT
IT'D BE MY HONOR TO PARTICIPATE IN YOUR SHOW.


DON'T YOU GET IT?
I'VE SEEN YOU DO YOUR JOB, RUI-KUN.
O!!
THANK YOU, NATSUME-CHAN.
WHO WOULDN'T GET UPSET WHEN SOMEBODY TALKED ABOUT THEM LIKE THAT?
I KNOW HOW HARD IT C N BE.
I'LL DO IT.
BUT I'M NOT GOING TO BACK OUT.

SHUDDER
RUI!
YOU CAN'T DO IT!
DON'T WORRY FOR NATSUME-CHAN.
THE THEME OF THE SHOW WILL BE...
I DON'T WANT TO
IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR YOU TO CHANGE YOUR MIND.
YOU'RE SO FULL OF YOURSELF! MODELING IS NOT SOME-THING THAT YOU CAN NAIL JUST BY SAYING,
"YOU CAN DO IT IF YOU DO YOUR BEST"!

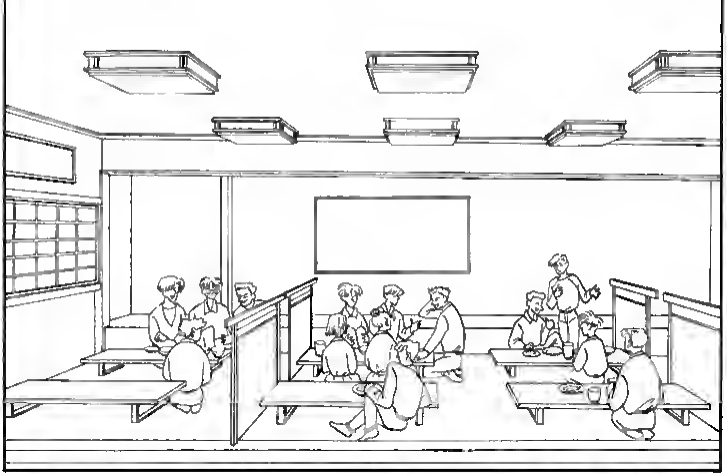
I...
.....
.....
MIGHT NOT BE AS PASSIONATE AS RUI-KUN, BUT...
THIS IS LIKE A DREAM.
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
ME...? DOING A FASHION SHOW?

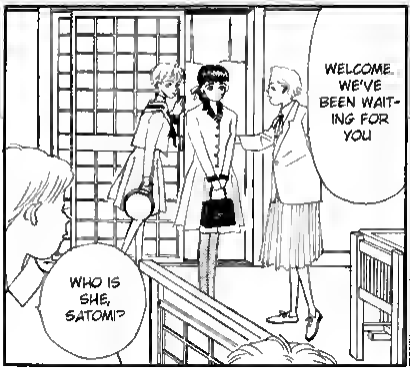
THIS WILL BE RUI-KUN'S LAST JOB,
AND I'LL BE ABLE TO WALK ON THE SAME STAGE AS HIM.
THIS IS MORE THAN I COULD'VE EVER HOPED FOR.

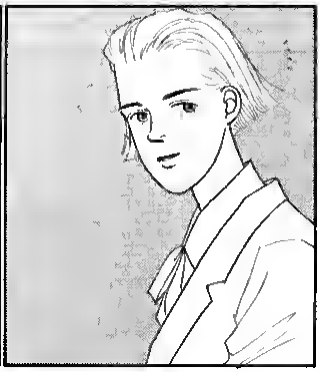

NAT-SUME!
THIS ...
IS SE-RIOUS!
AH
SO YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT IT, HUH?
JEEZ. I KNOW YOU DIDN'T EXPECT THIS TO HAPPEN.
RUI-KUN WAS SO AGAINST IT TOO
BUT KATSURA-SENSEI...
"YOU DON'T NEED TO BE NERVOUS."
"I'LL MAKE A FUN DESIGN THAT'LL SUIT YOU PERFECTLY."
THAT'S WHAT HE SAID
THEREFORE, I'M GOING TO FACE IT NO MATTER HOW CHAL-LENGING IT'LL BE.
?
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

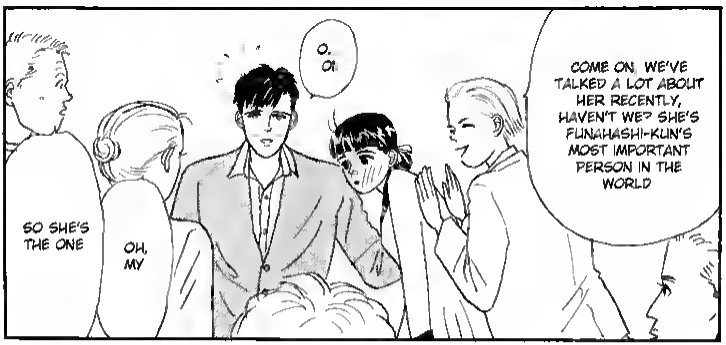
SO THAT'S WHAT SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT
EVERYONE'S GOING TO CELEBRATE IT NOW
FUNAHASHI-SAN'S KENDO CLUB JUST WON THE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT.
THE PROBLEM IS ... THERE'LL BE A LOT OF PEOPLE FROM FUNAHASHI-SAN'S UNIVERSITY. I'M NOT CONFIDENT ENOUGH TO GO THERE BY MYSELF
BUT....
IS IT OKAY FOR AN OUTSIDER LIKE ME TO COME?
DON'T SAY THAT. PLEASE. EVERYONE FROM OUR SCHOOL'S KENDO CLUB IS COMING TOO

THAT'S THE BUS!
AH!
WOW! THAT'S GREAT!
IS THAT SO? BUT I'LL ONLY BE FREE UNTIL 3, BECAUSE I NEED TO GO TO KATSURA-SENSEI'S STUDIO.
UM... DID I MENTION THAT I'LL BE PARTICIPATING IN HIS NEXT SHOW?
NATSUME, HURRY UP!
I'll be a model
JEEZ. I WISH SHE COULD AT LEAST BE A LITTLE BIT EXCITED FOR ME.



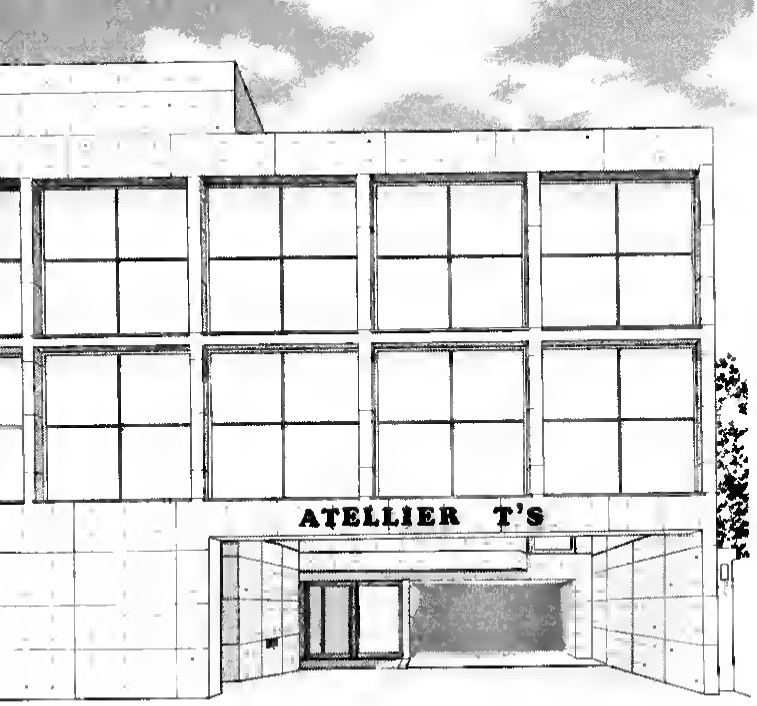

WELCOME. WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU
WHO IS SHE, SATOMI?

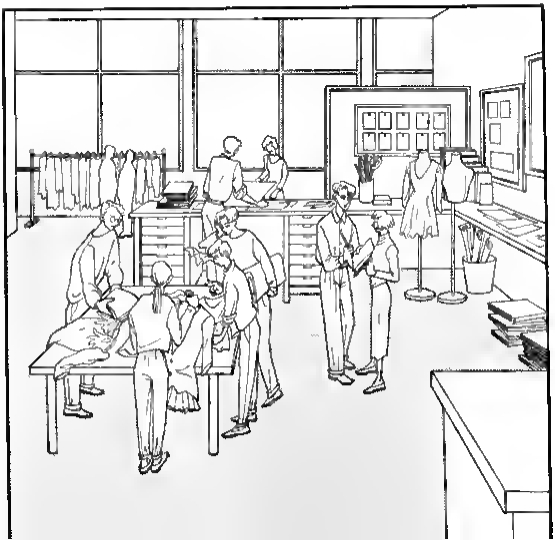



O, OI
COME ON. WE'VE TALKED A LOT ABOUT HER RECENTLY, HAVEN'T WE? SHE'S FUNAHASHI-KUN'S MOST IMPORTANT PERSON IN THE WORLD
SO SHE'S THE ONE
OH, MY

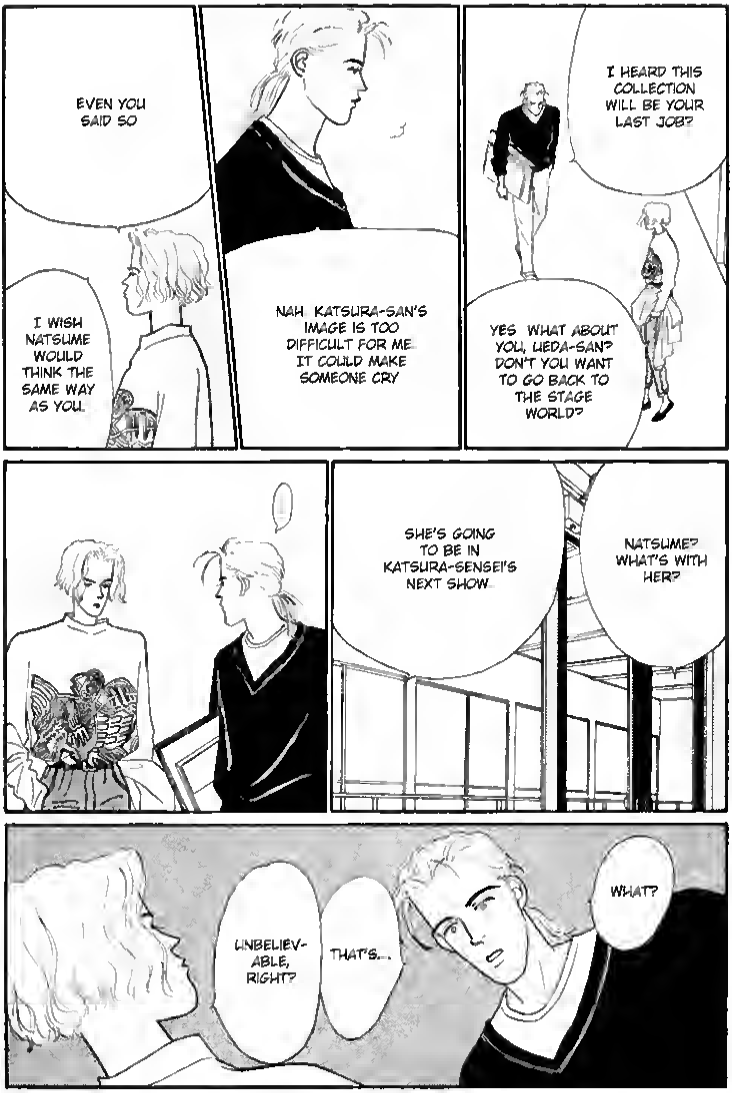
HEY..
LOOKS LIKE SHE'LL BE FINE WITHOUT ME AFTER ALL.
AH TAKESHIMA-KUN LONG TIME NO SEE.
WE'LL GRADUATE NEXT WEEK, AT LAST
RIGHT, 5 MORE DAYS, ISN'T IT?
I'LL MISS YOU ALL
IT SEEMS THAT YOU'RE GETTING ALONG WELL WITH HIM THANK GOODNESS
YOU MEAN.. RUI-KUN?
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN BEAT HIM AFTER ALL

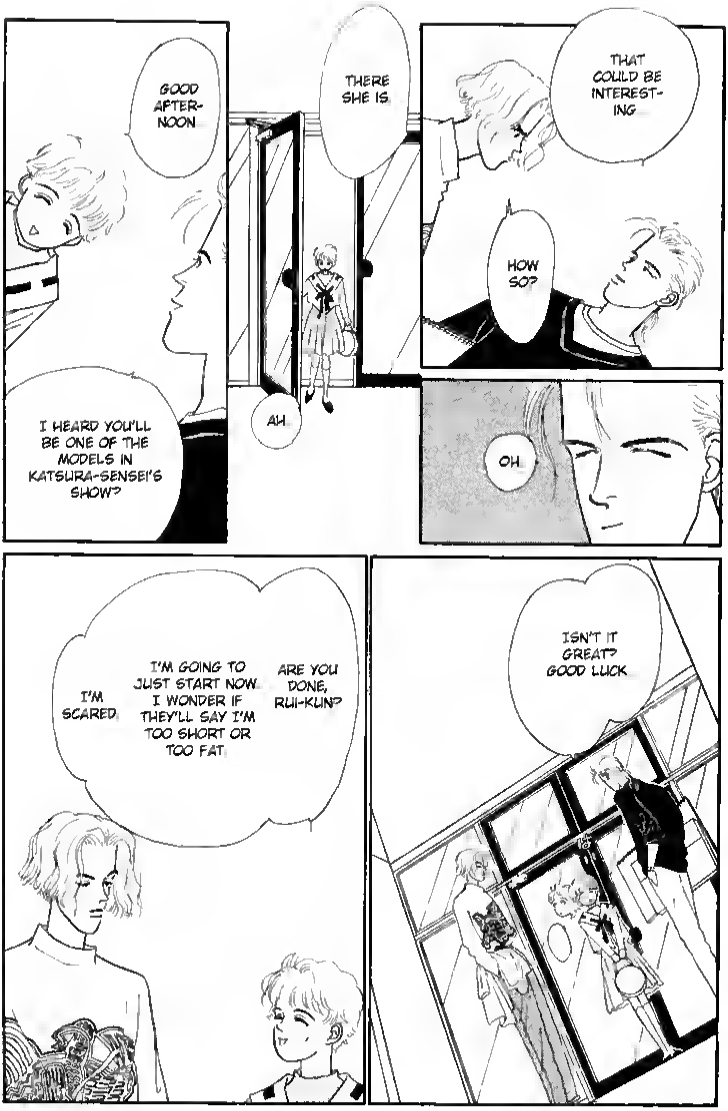
SORRY. I ALREADY HAVE SOME OTHER PLANS, SO I CAN'T GO WITH YOU.
WHAT? NOT FAIR! CAN'T YOU JUST CANCEL THEM?
BUT WHEN I GO TO UNIVERSITY NEXT YEAR, I'LL DO MY BEST TO GET MYSELF A VERY CUTE GIRLFRIEND.
Good luck.
AH, EVERYONE'S GOING TO THE SECOND PARTY AFTER THIS. YOU'LL JOIN US TOO, WON'T YOU?
She's bragging.
I'LL BE MODELING IN KATSURA RYUUICHI'S LATEST COLLECTION SHOW
I CAN'T.
SERIOUSLY, YOU SHOULD JUST COME WITH US TO THE PARTY
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
KATSURA...? COLLECT...?
.....


ATELLIER T'S



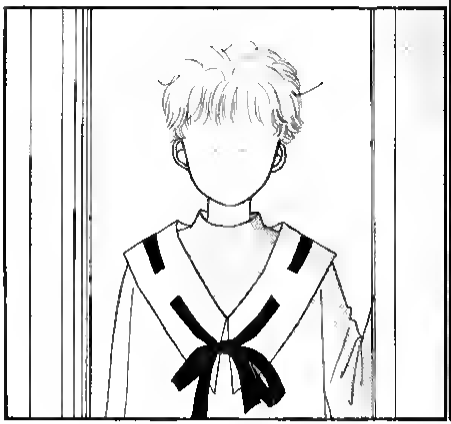
I'M SURE YOU CAN DO IT
IT'S NOT MY THING TO JOKE ABOUT MY WORK, IS IT?
ARE YOU .. SERIOUS..?
WHAT
THE HECK
.....
YO!
I WONDER WHAT HE HAS IN MIND


EVEN YOU SAID SO
I WISH NATSUME WOULD THINK THE SAME WAY AS YOU.
NAH. KATSURA-SAN'S IMAGE IS TOO DIFFICULT FOR ME. IT COULD MAKE SOMEONE CRY
I HEARD THIS COLLECTION WILL BE YOUR LAST JOB?
YES. WHAT ABOUT YOU, UEDA-SAN? DON'T YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO THE STAGE WORLD?
SHE'S GOING TO BE IN KATSURA-SENSEI'S NEXT SHOW.
NATSUME? WHAT'S WITH HER?
WHAT?
THAT'S...
UNBELIEV-ABLE, RIGHT?


GOOD AFTER-NOON
I HEARD YOU'LL BE ONE OF THE MODELS IN KATSURA-SENSEI'S SHOW?
THERE SHE IS
AH
THAT COULD BE INTEREST-ING
HOW SO?
OH
I'M SCARED
I'M GOING TO JUST START NOW. I WONDER IF THEY'LL SAY I'M TOO SHORT OR TOO FAT
ARE YOU DONE, RUI-KUN?
ISN'T IT GREAT? GOOD LUCK

I DON'T KNOW WHAT KATSURA-SENSEI HAS IN MIND, USING A SHORT-LEGGED MODEL LIKE YOU..
A
THE ATELLIER GROUP IS BEHIND THAT DOOR
YOU BETTER HURRY BEFORE YOU'RE LATE
.....

I DON'T FEEL LIKE GOING IN.
CAN I REALLY BE ONE OF THE MODELS?



IT'S BETTER TO BE HONEST THAN TO LIE, ISN'T IT?
WHY DID YOU SAY THAT TO HER? POOR GIRL.
IT'D BE THE SAME IF I SWEET-TALKED HER ANYWAY.
IN THE END, SHE'LL STILL DISCOVER THE TRUTH.

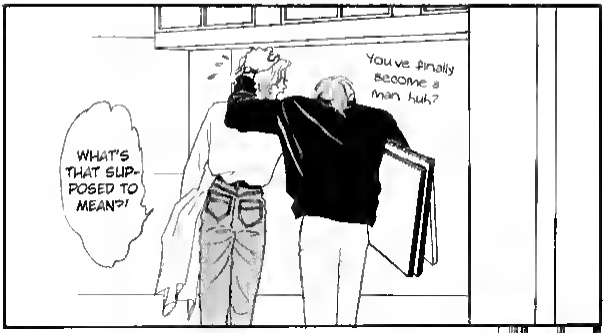
THESE PEOPLE COME FROM A DIFFERENT WORLD THAN MINE.
THIS IS THE WORLD WHERE PEOPLE KNOW WHAT THE WORD "STYLE" MEANS
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO WALK ON THE SAME STAGE AS THEM
WHAT A COMPLETE OPPOSITE!

ETSU, MI-SAN...
WHAT... SHOULD I DO?
I WAS SO SURPRISED WHEN I FIRST READ THE MODEL NAME LIST.
I SAW NATSUME-CHAN'S NAME ON THE SPECIAL MODEL PART.
OKAY, WE'RE DONE.
IT SEEMS THAT...
I'VE MADE THE BIGGEST MISTAKE...
OF MY LIFE...

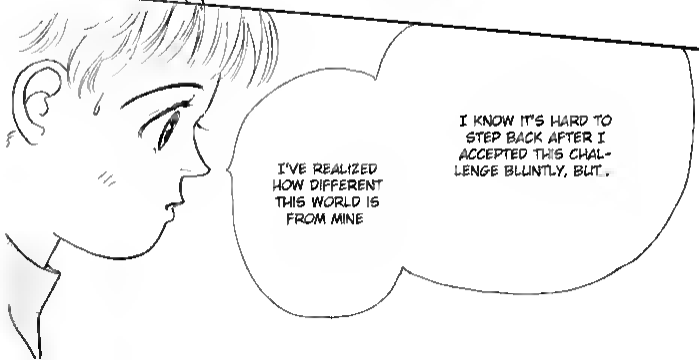
NATSUME-CHAN'S ALWAYS FEELS COMFORTABLE IF YOU'RE WITH HER, RIGHT?
WHY DON'T YOU HELP HER GET THROUGH THIS?
HECK NO
THIS IS NONE OF MY BUSINESS

BUT NATSUME... EVEN THOUGH SHE SAW IN PARIS HOW UNCOMFORTABLE THE SCENE BEHIND THE STAGE IS,
SHE STILL DOESN'T UNDERSTAND
AND YOU GET ALONG WELL WITH KATSURA-SAN'S STAFF...
YOU'RE SAYING THAT BECAUSE YOU'RE A PROFESSIONAL MODEL...
LIKE PROFESSIONAL MODELS CAN ANYWAY...
NO MATTER HOW THEY DRESS HER AND APPLY MAKE UP, SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO WALK BEAUTIFULLY...

BEHIND THE STAGE, THERE AREN'T JUST FEMALE MODELS AND STAFF,
THERE'LL ALSO BE SOME MALE MODELS
THEY'LL ALL BE NAKED AT THE SAME TIME
WHY CAN'T SHE UNDERSTAND THAT?! JEEZ!
WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING AT?


You've finally become a man huh?
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!

IN SHORT...
WHAT..?


I'VE REALIZED HOW DIFFERENT THIS WORLD IS FROM MINE
I KNOW IT'S HARD TO STEP BACK AFTER I ACCEPTED THIS CHALLENGE BLUNTLY, BUT.

EVEN I ENVY YOU
THIS IS GOING TO BE YOUR ONE AND THE ONLY CHANCE!
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
PRRR
PLEASE HELP ME TALK TO KATSURA-SENSE!!
I... DON'T HAVE CONFIDENCE AT ALL...
THIS HAS HAPPENED BECAUSE I DIDN'T LISTEN TO RUI-KUN'S ADVICE THAT DAY.
I'll excuse myself now.
CHIEF. YOU'VE GOT A PHONE CALL FROM MAKITA-KUN.
YOU'LL BE FINE RUI'LL BE THERE FOR YOU
HUH? WHAT DID YOU SAY?
AT THIS POINT, WE CAN'T CANCEL IT ANYMORE
YES, MAKITA-KUN? WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU STILL BEING SCOLDED BY YOUR CAMERAMAN?
WAIT, MAKITA-KUN
HUH? WHAT?

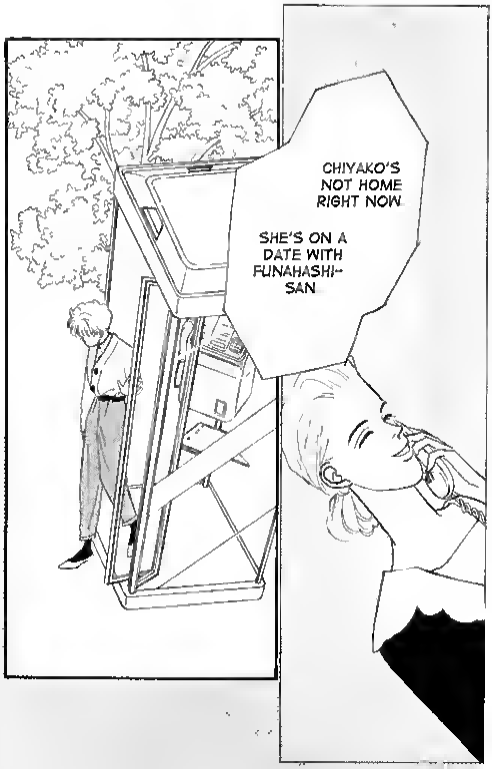
KITANO
coffee tea

BESIDES, I'VE QUIT THE MODELING WORLD ALREADY...
TOO BAD. I'VE NEVER DONE A BIG COLLECTION SHOW LIKE THIS, SO I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DO IT EITHER
YOU WANT ME TO TEACH YOU HOW TO WALK?

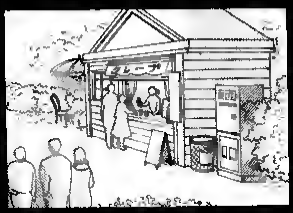
HOW TO GET THAT PERFECT VIOLIN-LIKE FIGURE...
YOU CAN AT LEAST TELL ME ANOTHER WAY TO BUILD UP MY CONFIDENCE, CAN'T YOU? LIKE DIET OR...

MORE IMPORTANTLY, LOOK AT THIS MOUNTAIN OF STUFF.
AWE-SOME
I DON'T THINK IT'LL WORK ON YOU.
BY THE WAY, THIS IS FOR YOU, NATSUME.
HUH?
I'LL BE LEAVING JAPAN SOON
SO I NEED TO BUY AS MUCH STUFF AS POS-SIBLE WHILE I'M STILL HERE
OKAY, SEE YOU.
ARE YOU GOING SOME-WHERE?
SINCE YOU'RE A MODEL NOW, I'M EXPECTING SOMETHING EXPENSIVE
PICK SOME-THING I WROTE ON THAT LIST AND BUY IT
MY "TO-BUY-STUFF" LIST. YOU CAN GIVE IT TO ME AS A GIFT.
.....

NATSUME, WE'RE GOING TO HOLD A FAREWELL PARTY BEFORE WE LEAVE, SO BE SURE TO PUT THAT ON YOUR SCHEDULE.
She only heard the "party" word
U... UM... YES, YES!
WE'RE GOING TO BUY MORE STUFF FOR KERRY'S BUDDIES' GIFTS.
See, yeah!




I... FEEL SO LONELY...



THE FIRST TIME I WATCHED A FASHION SHOW

I THOUGHT THAT THE WORLD THAT PRODUCED IT WAS SO FAR AWAY FROM MINE

PEOPLE WATCH THE MODELS WALKING ON THE STAGE, SHOWING THE CLOTHES DESIGNERS DESIGNED FOR THEM.

THE WORLD BEHIND THE SCREEN.

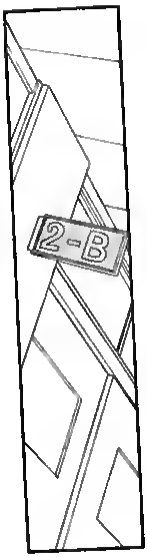
I SIGHED AND THOUGHT. HOW WONDERFUL.
I HAD ALWAYS DREAMED TO BE IN THE SAME WORLD RUI-KUN'S BEEN IN
I DREAMED TOO BIG, DIDN'T I?

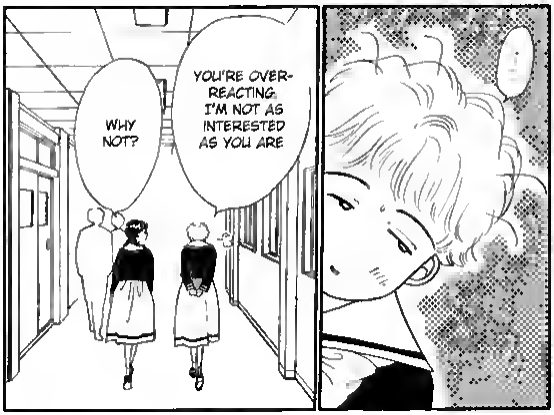
NO WAY! WHAT WAS I THINK-ING? WHY DID I BUY THIS JUNK?
I'M ON DIET NOW!
I HAVE TO BURN SOME FAT!
WHEN WILL THIS TOR-TURE END?
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!
She's trying to shape her waist.

I FEEL SO LONELY NOW THAT WE'RE GRADUATING
WHAT IS IT?
I HAVE THIS WEIRD FEELING
JUST...
LIKE LAST YEAR WHEN FUNAHASHI-SAN GRADUATED
YOU'RE WRONG. I JUST FEEL A LITTLE HUNGRY.
YOU'RE AWESOME, NATSUME HOW COULD YOU BE SO CALM?

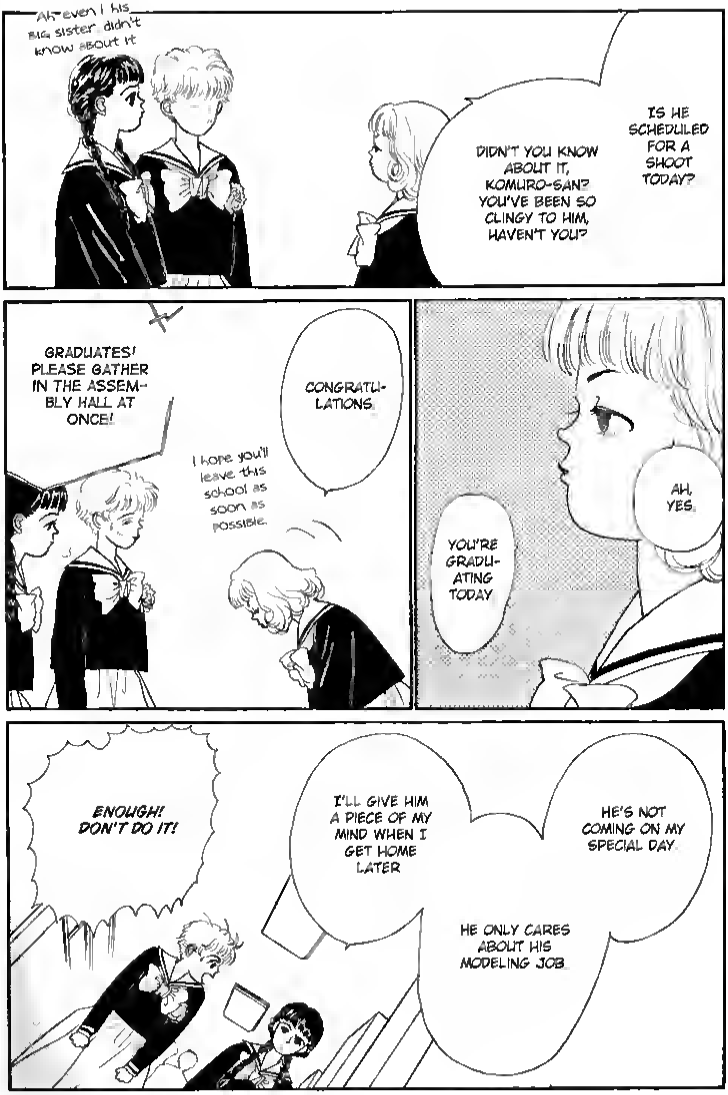
I WAS WITH THE STAFF AND HELPING THE MODELS OUT AT THAT TIME. IT WAS DIFFERENT FROM BEING A MODEL MYSELF
THIS IS JUST LIKE WHEN YOU WENT TO PARIS, ISN'T IT? THERE'S NOTHING TO BE WORRIED ABOUT
ANYTIME I THINK ABOUT THE SHOW, I GET NERVOUS AND I CAN'T SLEEP
A MODEL?
.....
BUT YOU... YOU JUST SAID THAT YOU'D BE PARTICIPATING IN HIS SHOW... AH...
HUH? NATSUME WILL BE ONE OF THE MODELS?
I TOLD YOU ALREADY, DIDN'T I?

WOW! ISN'T THAT GREAT, NATSUME?!
HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO BE A MODEL FOR HIS SHOW?


2-B


WHY NOT?
YOU'RE OVER-REACTING. I'M NOT AS INTERESTED AS YOU ARE

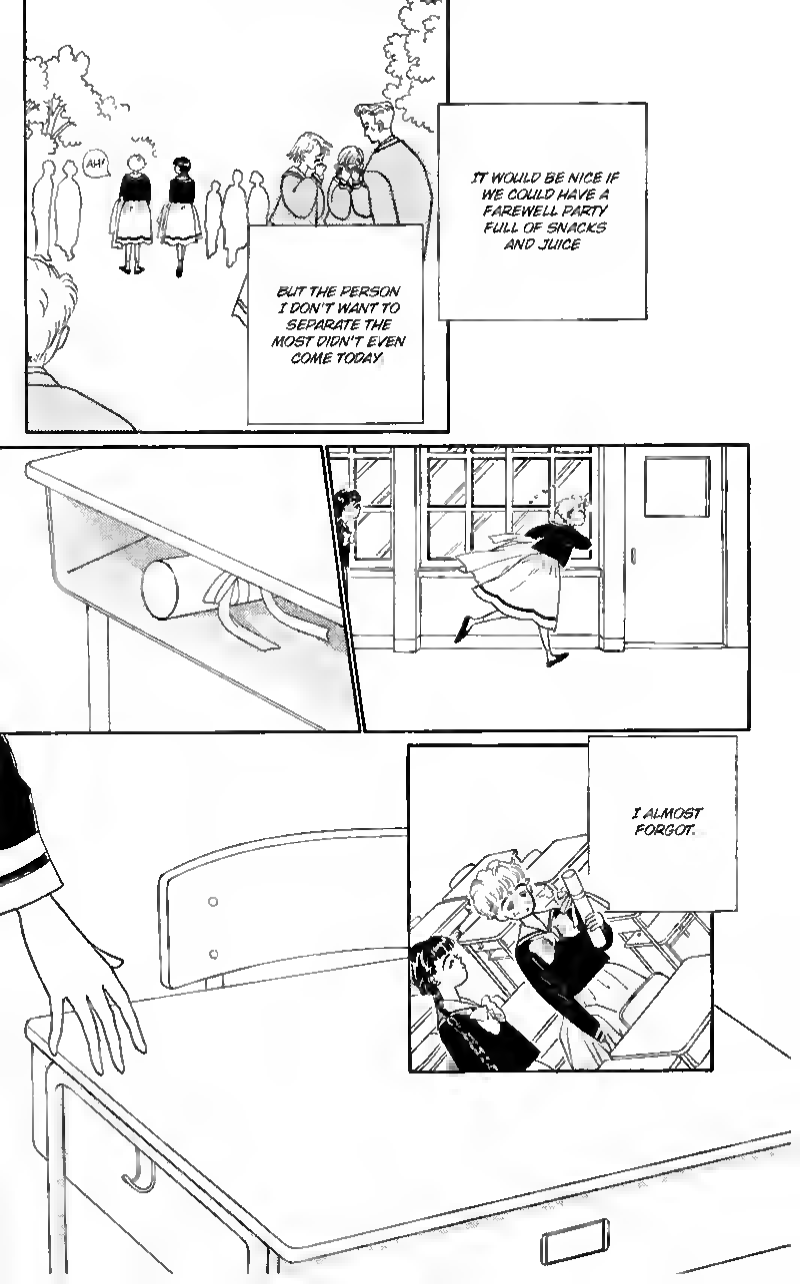
RUI-KUN IS ABSENT TODAY...


Ah- even I his big sister didn't know about it
DIDN'T YOU KNOW ABOUT IT, KOMURO-SAN? YOU'VE BEEN SO CLINGY TO HIM, HAVEN'T YOU?
IS HE SCHEDULED FOR A SHOOT TODAY?
GRADUATES! PLEASE GATHER IN THE ASSEM-BLY HALL AT ONCE!
CONGRATU-LATIONS.
I hope you'll leave this school as soon as possible.
AH, YES.
YOU'RE GRADU-ATING TODAY
ENOUGH! DON'T DO IT!
I'LL GIVE HIM A PIECE OF MY MIND WHEN I GET HOME LATER
HE'S NOT COMING ON MY SPECIAL DAY
HE ONLY CARES ABOUT HIS MODELING JOB

IF I'VE WEAK DURING THE GRADUATION CEREMONY I'M SO HUNGRY.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED THAT HE CAN'T COME, RIGHT? AT THIS POINT, I DON'T NEED TO WORRY ANYMORE...
I'M SURE
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY?
IF I COULD SEE HIS FACE
I THOUGHT I WOULD AT LEAST FORGET ABOUT MY STOMACH...

Growl
HEY, BE QUIET!
Rumble

I... SHOULD'VE EATEN MY BREAKFAST THIS MORNING
AH, WHAT A GRADUATION DAY.

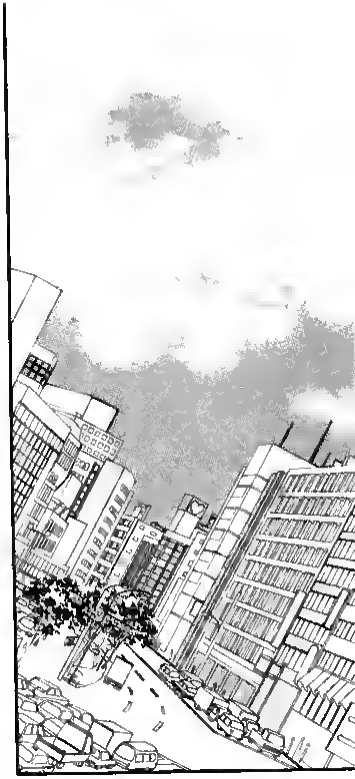

AH!
IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE COULD HAVE A FAREWELL PARTY FULL OF SNACKS AND JUICE
BUT THE PERSON I DON'T WANT TO SEPARATE THE MOST DIDN'T EVEN COME TODAY.
I ALMOST FORGOT.

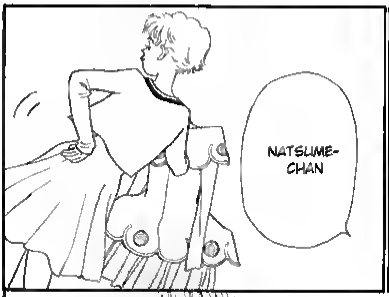
WHO IS HE?
MY CHEEKY LITTLE BROTHER

I LOVE HIM!
KUMI!

FAREWELL

SAYONARA.

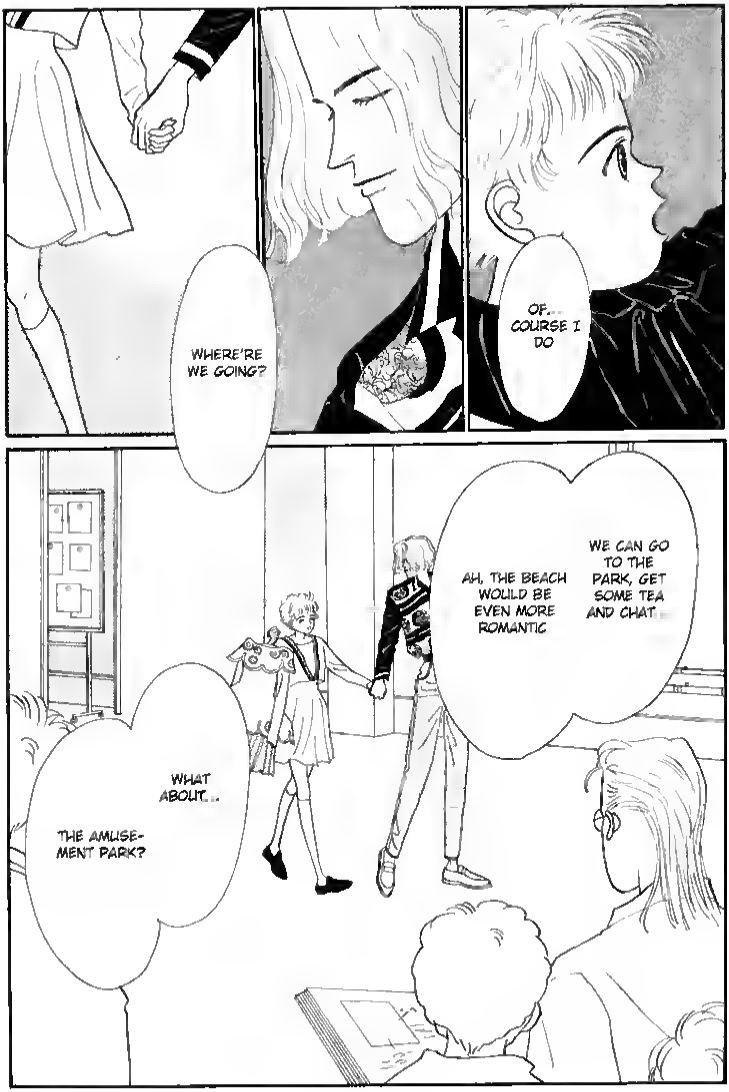


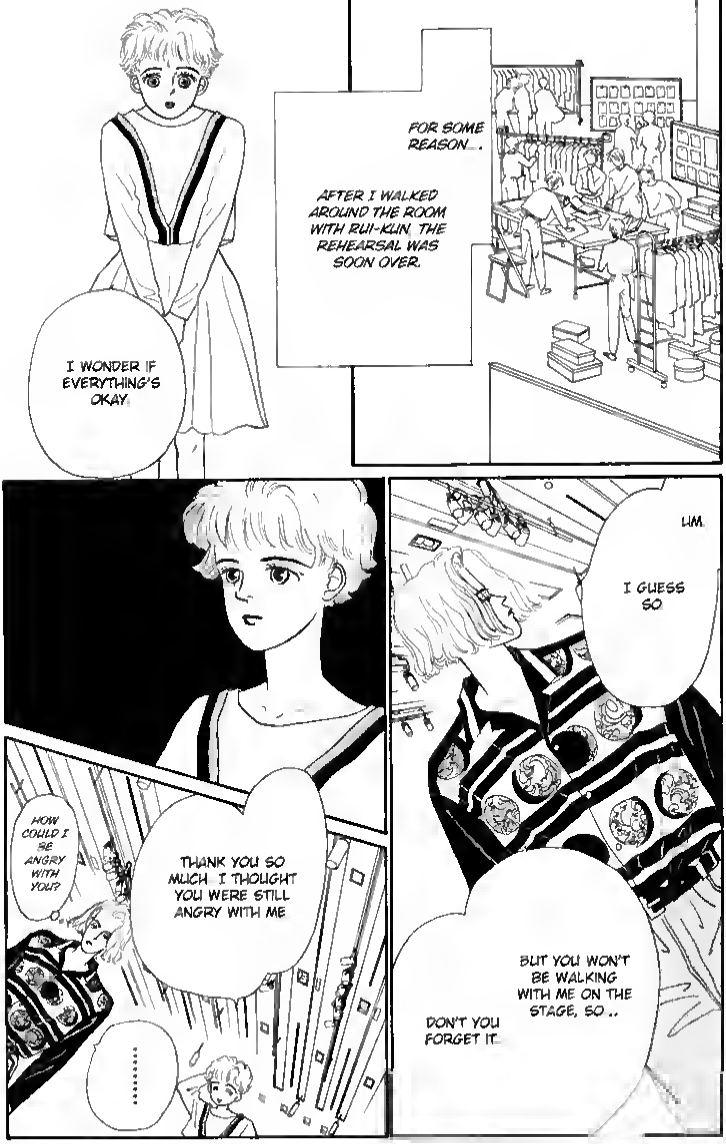

NATSUME-CHAN

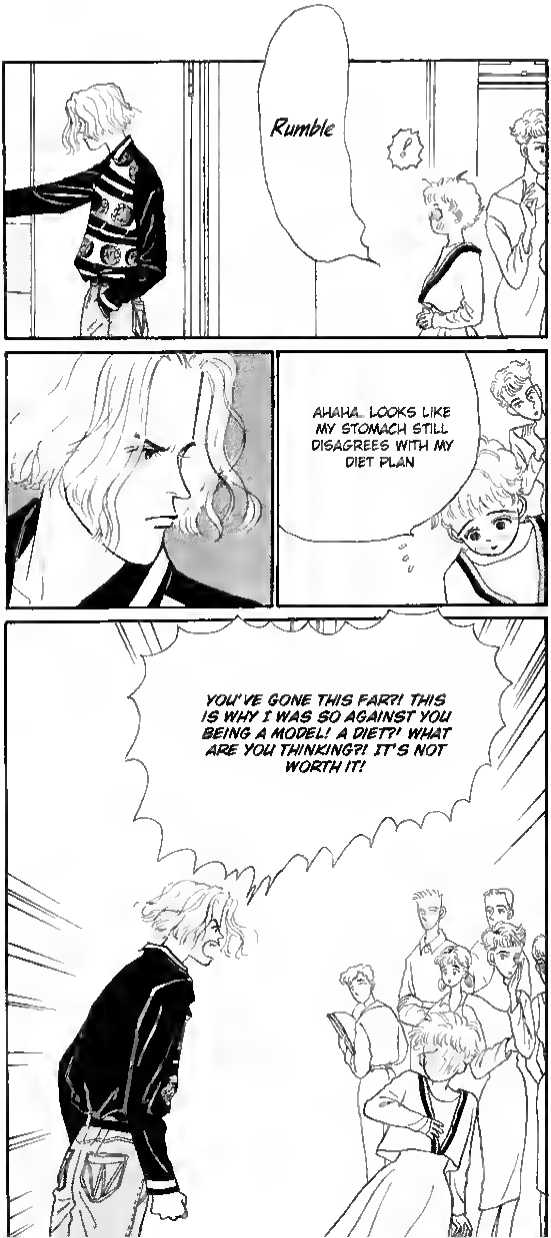
YOU MEAN... JUST WALK NATURALLY?
UM... YOU DON'T NEED TO LEARN HOW TO WALK ELEGANTLY LIKE THE OTHER MODELS. JUST WALK LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO.

EX
CUSE ME
THIS IS SO
DIFFICULT
EEEK!

AND YOUR BUTT!
STRAIGHT-EN UP YOUR CHEST!
AND YOUR LEGS!
DO YOU WANT TO GO ON A DATE?


WHERE'RE WE GOING?
OF... COURSE I DO
AH, THE BEACH WOULD BE EVEN MORE ROMANTIC
WE CAN GO TO THE PARK, GET SOME TEA AND CHAT...
WHAT ABOUT... THE AMUSE-MENT PARK?


I WONDER IF EVERYTHING'S OKAY
FOR SOME REASON...
AFTER I WALKED AROUND THE ROOM WITH RUI-KUN, THE REHEARSAL WAS SOON OVER.
UM.
I GUESS SO
BUT YOU WON'T BE WALKING WITH ME ON THE STAGE, SO ..
DON'T YOU FORGET IT.
THANK YOU SO MUCH. I THOUGHT YOU WERE STILL ANGRY WITH ME
HOW COULD I BE ANGRY WITH YOU?
.....


Rumble
AHAHA. LOOKS LIKE MY STOMACH STILL DISAGREES WITH MY DIET PLAN
YOU'VE GONE THIS FAR?! THIS IS WHY I WAS SO AGAINST YOU BEING A MODEL! A DIET?! WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?! IT'S NOT WORTH IT!

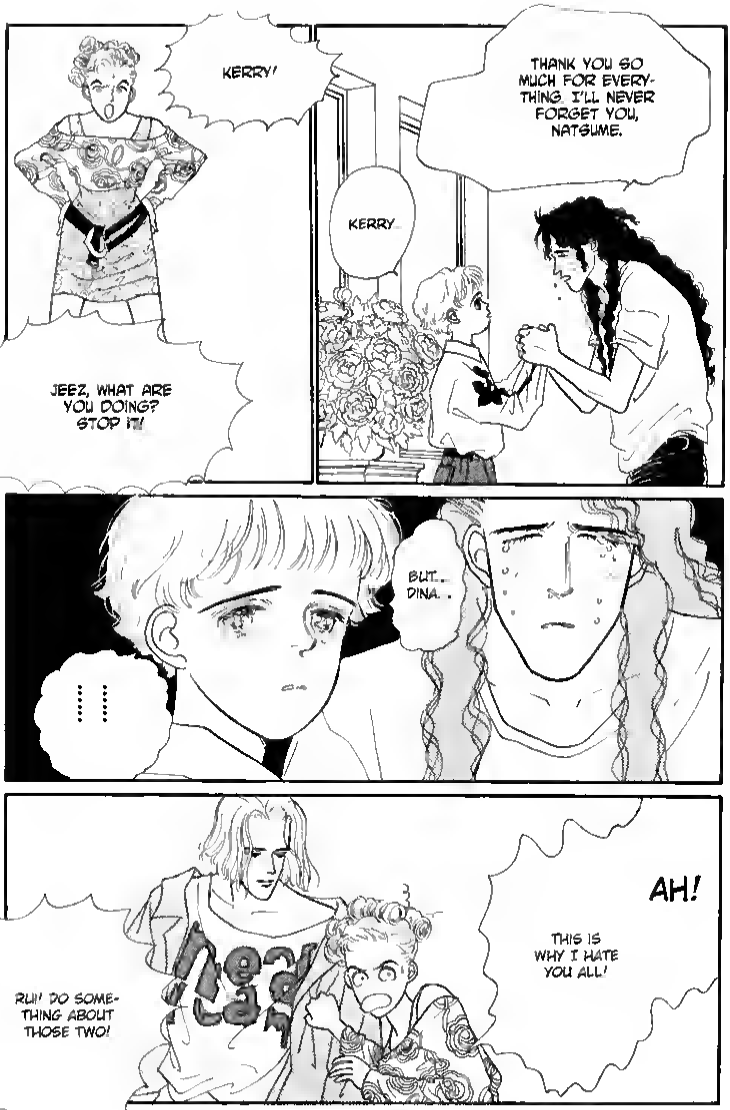
UGH!
P... P-HELPER! SORRY, BUT YOU CAN'T JUST SIT ON MY STOMACH!
LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE EATEN SOMETHING ALREADY
RUI-KUN TOOK ME TO A RESTAURANT AND ORDERED ME A MOUNTAIN OF FOOD
THE DIET I'D GONE FOR THE PAST 10 DAYS HAS NOW GONE TO WASTE BUT THE TORTURE WILL CONTINUE TOMORROW...

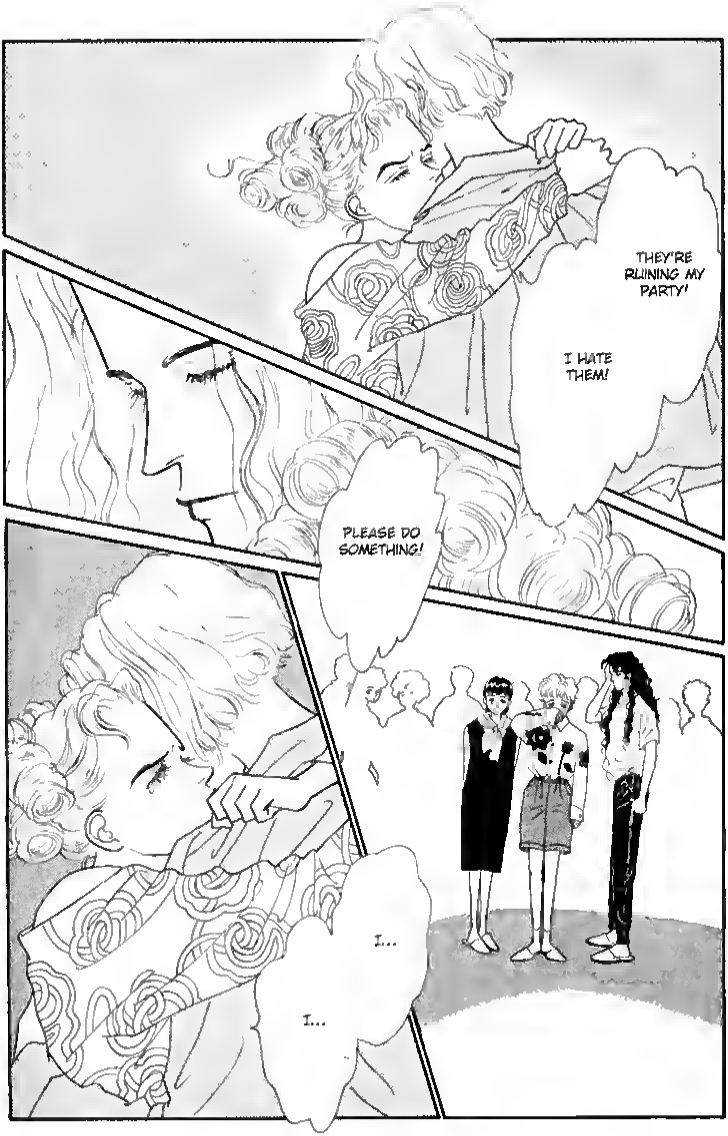
BUT TOMORROW IS DINA'S FAREWELL PARTY, ISN'T IT? IF YOU DON'T EAT ANYTHING IN THE PARTY, YOU'RE JUST GOING TO MAKE DINA UPSET, AREN'T YOU?
Looks like I can't diet properly after all Okay I'll just quit it
HEY, HEY, TELL ME ABOUT THE REHEARSAL HOW WAS IT?
WHAT KIND OF CLOTHES DID YOU WEAR?
ONLY TWO? WHY?
I'M JUST AN AMATEUR AFTER ALL
HEY, HEY, IT CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT?
I'LL BE WEARING TWO OF THEM.
HEHE THE DRESSES WERE SO CUTE
I THINK I HEARD ABOUT KATSURA RYUUICHI'S. .
FINAL WEDDING DRESS SHOW IT WOULD BE A LOT OF FUN IF I COULD SEE NATSUME WEARING IT.

I THINK YOU'D BE SO CUTE IN A WEDDING GOWN.
BUT THAT'S A DREAM OF EVERY WOMAN, ISN'T IT?
CHIYAKO! NO WAY! WHAT ARE YOU THINKING!?
CHI .
AND YOU'LL SAY THAT RUI-KUN WILL BE THE GROOM, RIGHT?
Chiyako you're joking!
NOT YET, NOT YET, NOT YET.
NATSUME, IT HURTS

This is Father and mother
SA... SATUR-DAY?!
SATURDAY IS THE DAY OF THE FASHION SHOW! WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE YOU OFF
I DON'T WANT YOU TO COME ANYWAY

I'M...
A SIMPLE GIRL.
I DON'T MIND SAYING GOODBYE IF I HAVE TO.
DINA
I'M NOT KIDDING. I DON'T WANT YOU TO EMBARRASS ME BY COMING TO THE AIRPORT AND CRYING LIKE A BABY
NATSUME...
MORE IMPORTANTLY, NATSUME
THE NEXT TIME YOU COME TO LONDON, YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO SPEAK IN JAPANESE ANYMORE, YOU HEAR ME?
IF YOU CAN DO IT, I'LL ALLOW YOU TO LODGE AT MY HOUSE AND RUI TOO.


KERRY!
JEEZ, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? STOP IT!
KERRY...
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR EVERY-THING. I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU, NATSUME.
.....
BUT... DINA...
AH!
THIS IS WHY I HATE YOU ALL!
RUI! DO SOME-THING ABOUT THOSE TWO!

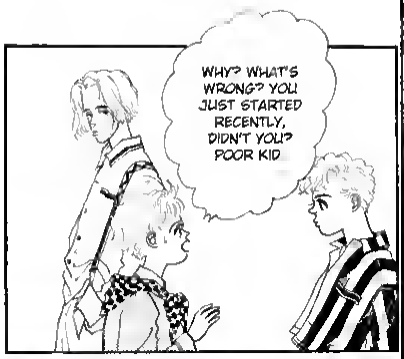

THEY'RE RUINING MY PARTY!
I HATE THEM!
PLEASE DO SOMETHING!
I...
I...

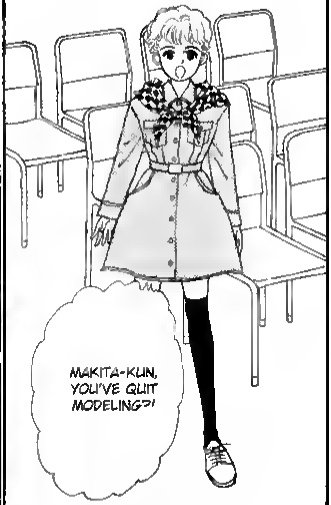
I'M A SIMPLE GIRL
I DON'T MIND SAYING GOODBYE IF I HAVE TO

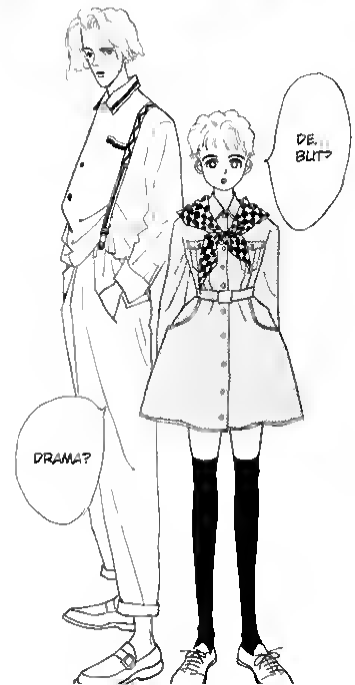
IT'S TOMORROW, ISN'T IT?
NATSUME-SAN SEEMS TO BE VERY EXCITED
I DON'T THINK SO
I'VE... ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT RUI-SAN LIKED TO BULLY NATSUME-SAN
.....
DID I JUST HIT THE TARGET?

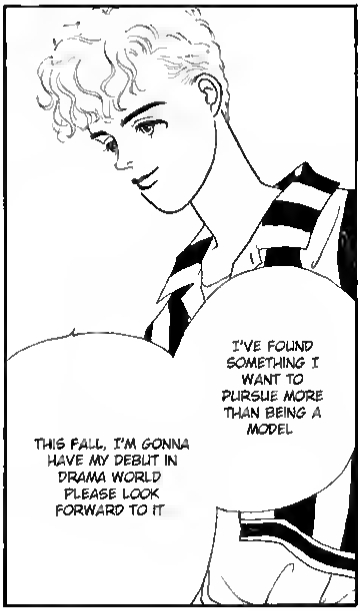
"EVEN MAKITA-KUN SAID THAT HE WAS GOING TO QUIT MODELING."
LEAVE ME ALONE.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, YOU'VE UPSET THE CHIEF
BUT...
YOU CAN NEVER DEFEAT ME WITH THAT ATTITUDE.
I DON'T THINK IT'D BE USEFUL FOR ME TO STAY IN THIS WORLD ANY LONGER.
ONCE THE "TARGET" IS GONE,

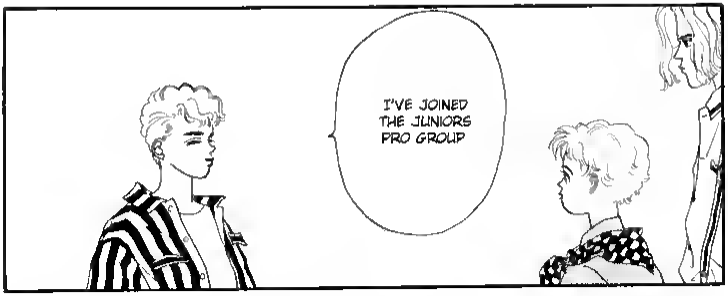
IF YOU'RE NOT HERE, THERE'S NOBODY I CAN CHASE ANYMORE
BESIDES, MODELING IS NOT JUST ABOUT LOOKS
YOU JUST LACK CONFIDENCE.
ANYTIME YOU'RE IGNORED, YOU JUST RUN TO NATSUME
.....
Slap in the face.
DON'T WORRY.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR KATSURA RYUUICHI TO USE YOU ANYWAY.
I'M.
NOT WORRIED
Huh? What about your pride?
Leave me alone.
ANYHOW! THIS IS NONE OF MY BUSINESS ANYMORE!
I'VE QUIT THE MODELING WORLD!
EH!?

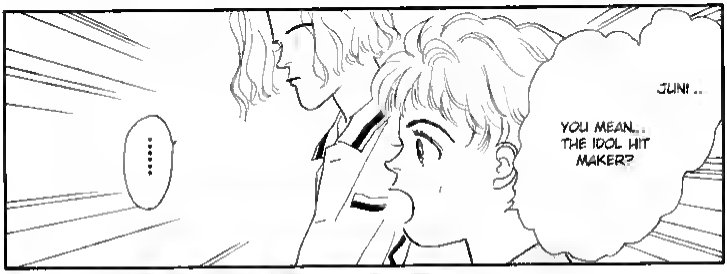

WHY? WHAT'S WRONG? YOU JUST STARTED RECENTLY, DIDN'T YOU? POOR KID

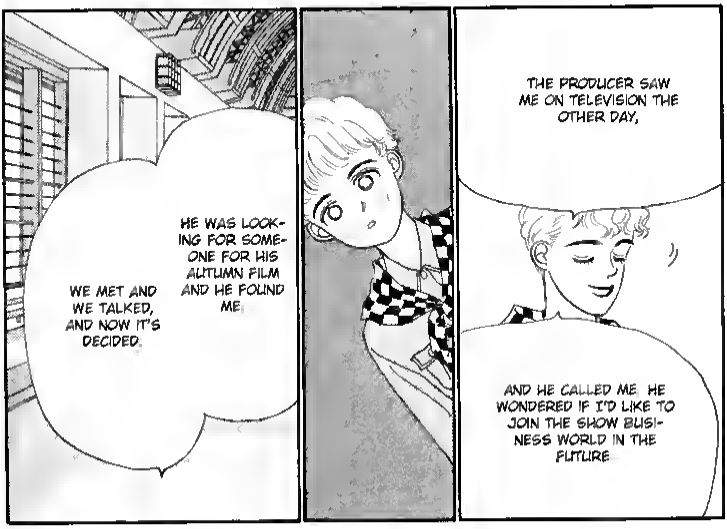

MAKITA-KUN, YOU'VE QUIT MODELING?!


DE, BUT?
DRAMA?


I'VE FOUND SOMETHING I WANT TO PURSUE MORE THAN BEING A MODEL
THIS FALL, I'M GONNA HAVE MY DEBUT IN DRAMA WORLD PLEASE LOOK FORWARD TO IT


I'VE JOINED THE JUNIORS PRO GROUP


JUN! ..
YOU MEAN.. THE IDOL HIT MAKER?
.....


THE PRODUCER SAW ME ON TELEVISION THE OTHER DAY,
AND HE CALLED ME. HE WONDERED IF I'D LIKE TO JOIN THE SHOW BUSINESS WORLD IN THE FUTURE
HE WAS LOOKING FOR SOMEONE FOR HIS AUTUMN FILM AND HE FOUND ME.
WE MET AND WE TALKED, AND NOW IT'S DECIDED.

I MIGHT EVEN CONSIDER BEING A SINGER IN THE DISTANT FUTURE.
NAT-SUME-SAN...
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
WELL, I THINK IT KINDA SUITS YOU.
I WAS SUR-PRISED, BUT,
SINCE IT'S MAKITA-KUN, I'M SURE YOU'LL BE OKAY.
IN FACT, THIS MIGHT BE THE PERFECT JOB FOR YOU.
DO YOUR BEST!

I'LL... DO MY BEST TO FORGET ABOUT NATSUME-SAN, BUT...
IN RETURN, PROMISE ME THAT YOU WON'T BULLY HER ANYMORE, RUI-SAN.
ALSO, DURING THE SHOW, PLEASE TELL HER THAT SHE'S "CUTE"
WHAT IS IT?
?
JUST GIVE HER A ONE WORD COMPLE-MENT.
I'M SURE NATSUME-SAN WILL GET HER CONFIDENCE BACK IF RUI-SAN IS THE ONE WHO SAYS IT
MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE
SHUD DUP.
STOP MED-DLING
ANNOY-ING LITTLE BRAT

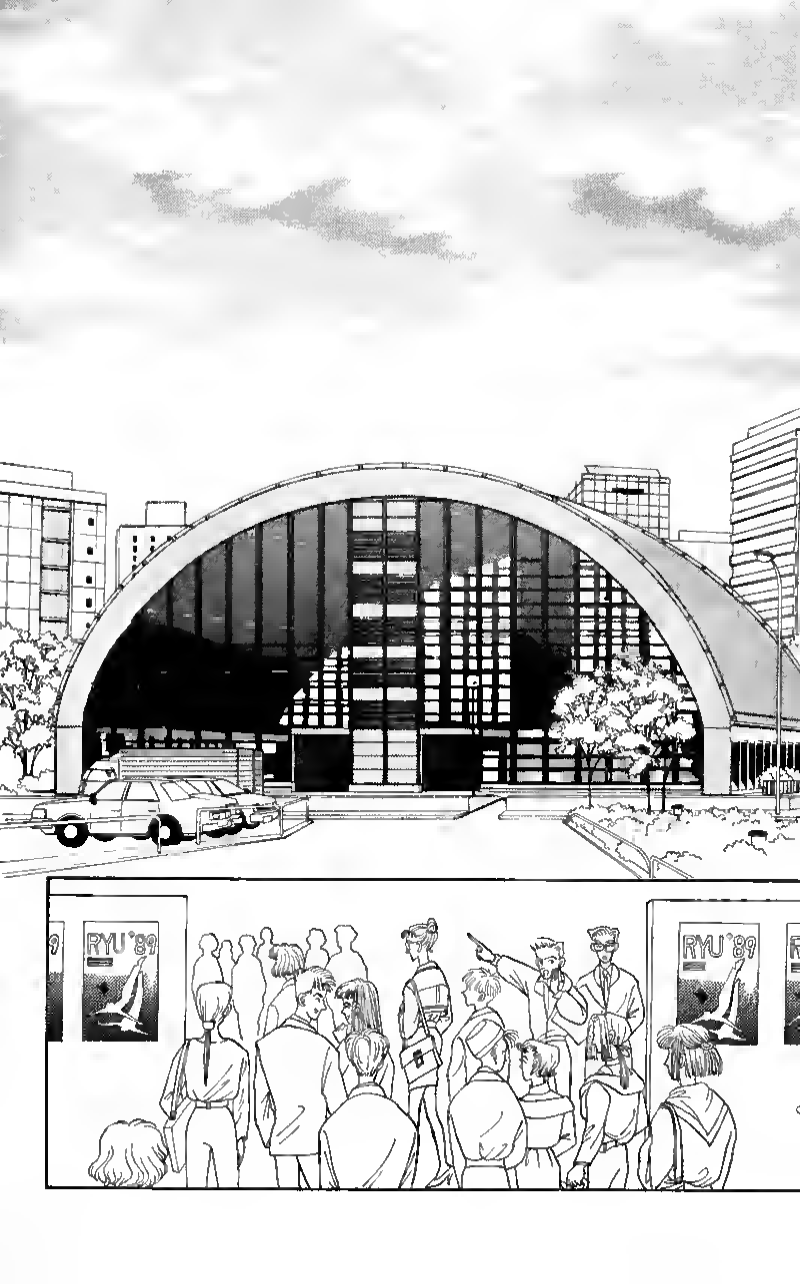
SHIMIZU KYOUSUKE!
SHIMIZU-SAN! THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE JUST IN TIME
HEY, BOY...
DID YOU COME HERE RIGHT AWAY FROM NARITA?
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED EITHER
STILL THE SAME OLD CHEEKY FACE, HUH? I MISSED IT SOMEHOW.
GOOD AFTERNOON. WE MET IN PARIS, DIDN'T WE?
AH, THERE SHE IS
IS SHE WELL?
BY THE WAY, HOW'S YOUR "WONDER WOMAN"?
?

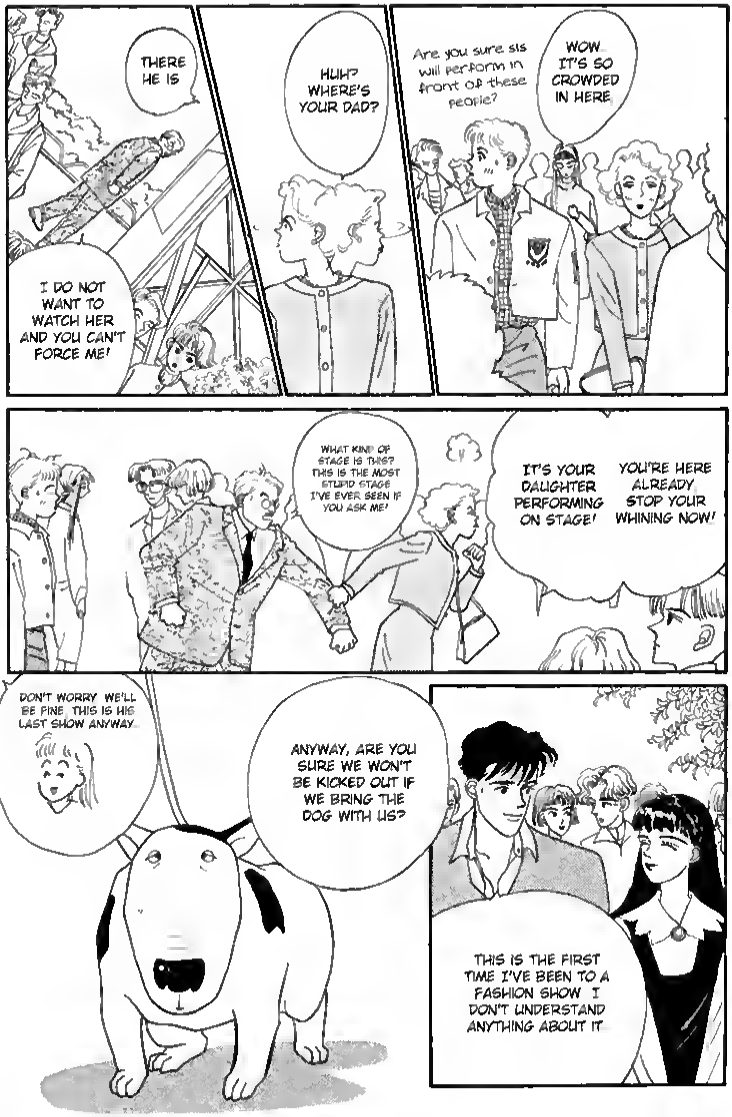
Bonjour Mademoiselle
Hey you! What the heck do you think you're doing?!
OUCH!

THIS IS...
THE LAST RE-HEARSAL! LET'S GO, PEOPLE!
What a jerk!
But it was a greeting.
GOOD LUCK...
FOR YOUR SHOW
THANK YOU!
MAKITA-KUN TOO, DO YOUR BEST!

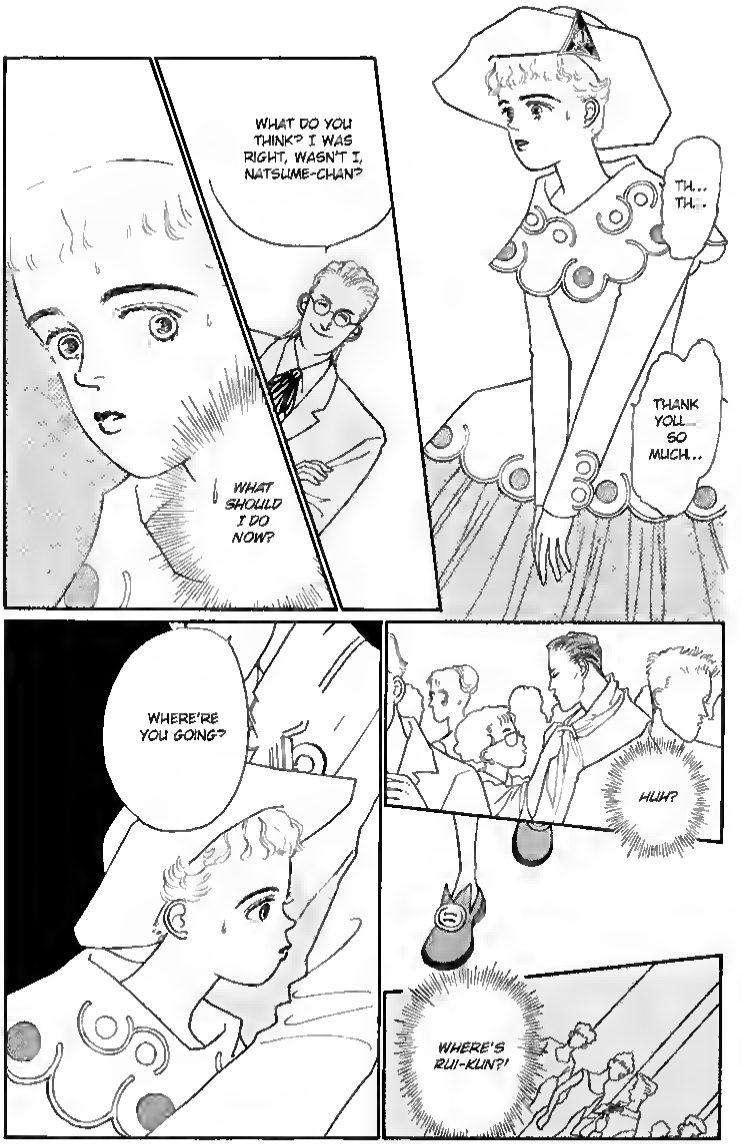
I'M POSITIVE. WHY'D YOU ASK?
ARE YOU SURE?
YOU DON'T WANT TO WATCH RUI'S SHOW?
KERRY.
THANK YOU.
FOR COMING ALL THE WAY TO JAPAN,
FOR BEING A GOOD FRIEND...

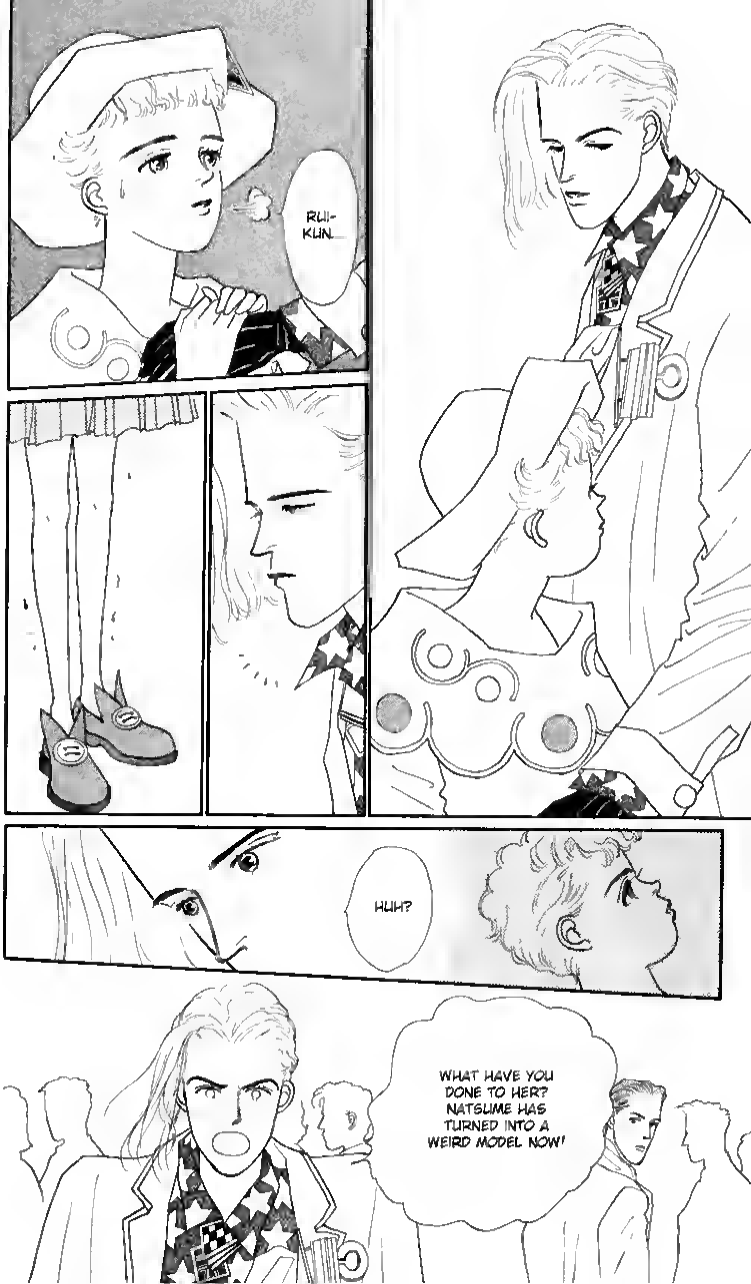
I'M SO HAPPY.
REALLY.
RYU '89
RYU '89
RYU '89
RYU '89
RYU '89

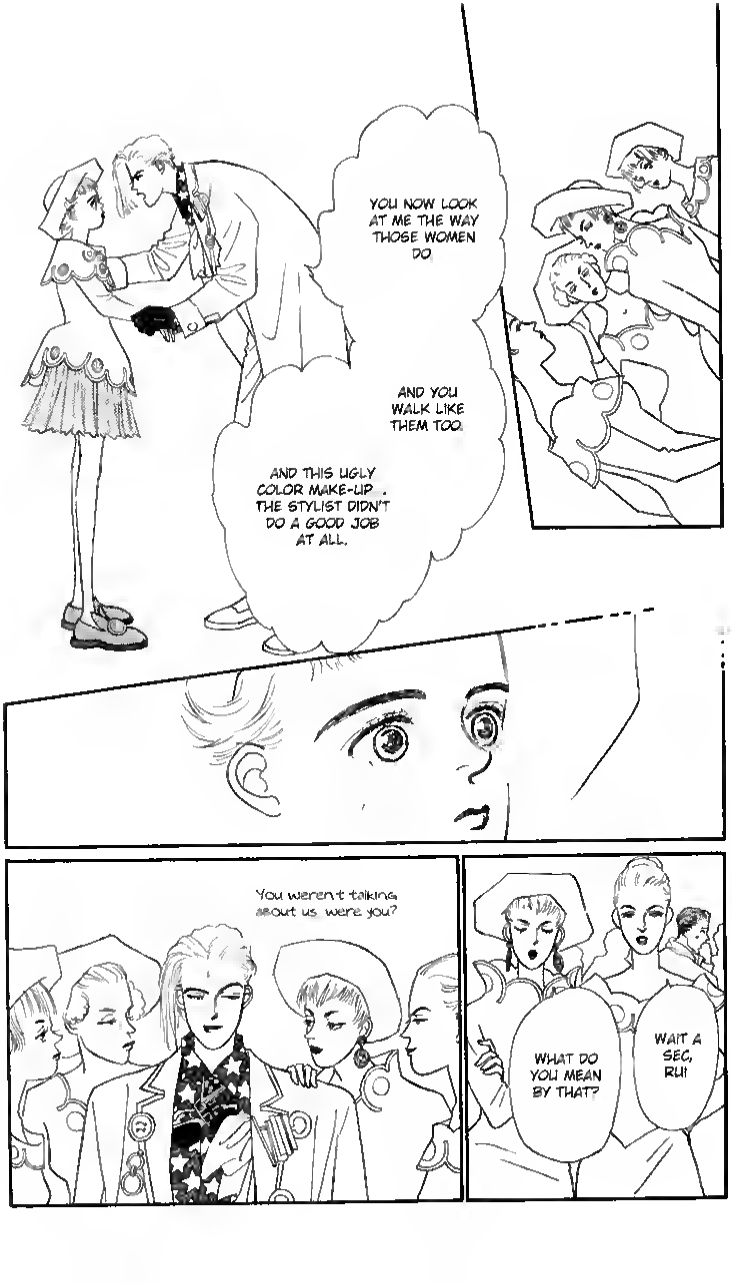

RYU'89
RYU'89

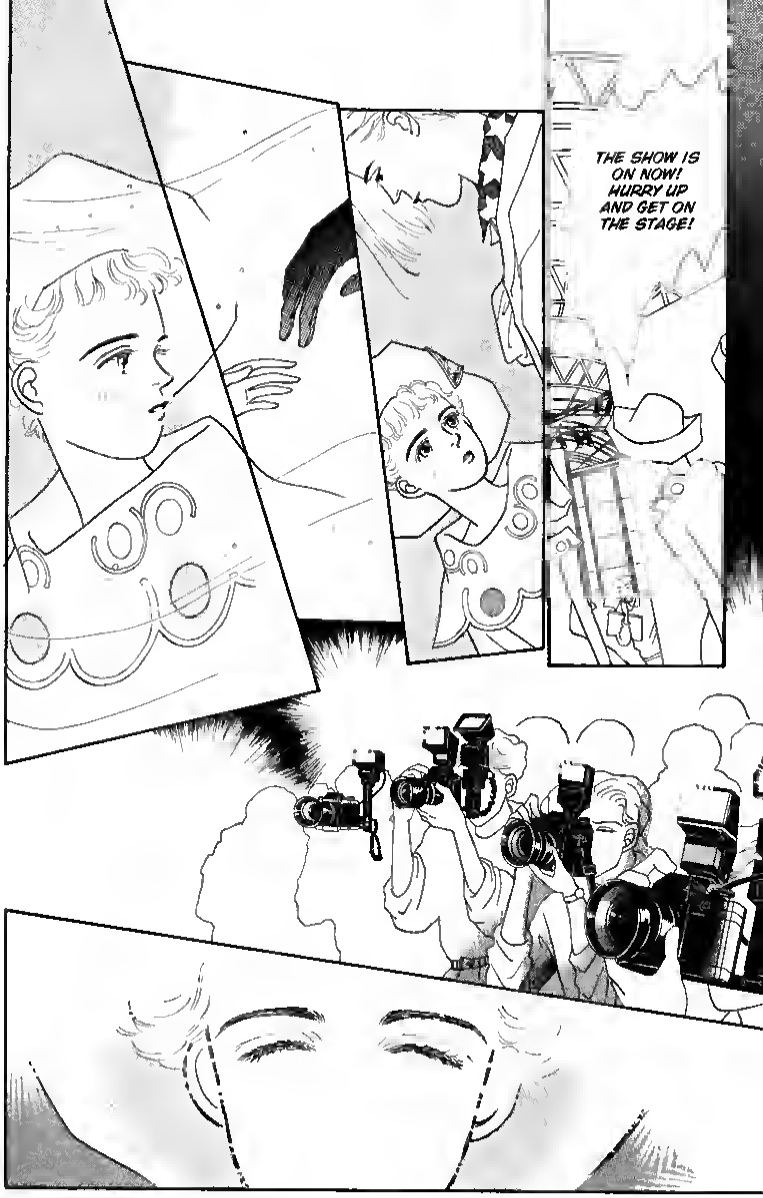

THERE HE IS
I DO NOT WANT TO WATCH HER AND YOU CAN'T FORCE ME!
HUH? WHERE'S YOUR DAD?
Are you sure sis will perform in front of these people?
WOW. IT'S SO CROWDED IN HERE
WHAT KIND OF STAGE IS THIS? THIS IS THE MOST STUPID STAGE I'VE EVER SEEN IF YOU ASK ME!
IT'S YOUR DAUGHTER PERFORMING ON STAGE!
YOU'RE HERE ALREADY STOP YOUR WHINING NOW!
DON'T WORRY WE'LL BE FINE. THIS IS HIS LAST SHOW ANYWAY.
ANYWAY, ARE YOU SURE WE WON'T BE KICKED OUT IF WE BRING THE DOG WITH US?
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN TO A FASHION SHOW. I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

OK!
AH, NATSUME-CHAN! YOU LOOK BEAUTIFUL!


WHAT DO YOU THINK? I WAS RIGHT, WASN'T I, NATSUME-CHAN?
WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?
TH... TH...
THANK YOU SO MUCH...
WHERE'RE YOU GOING?
HUH?
WHERE'S RUI-KUN?!


RUI-
KUN...
HUH?
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HER? NATSUME HAS TURNED INTO A WEIRD MODEL NOW!

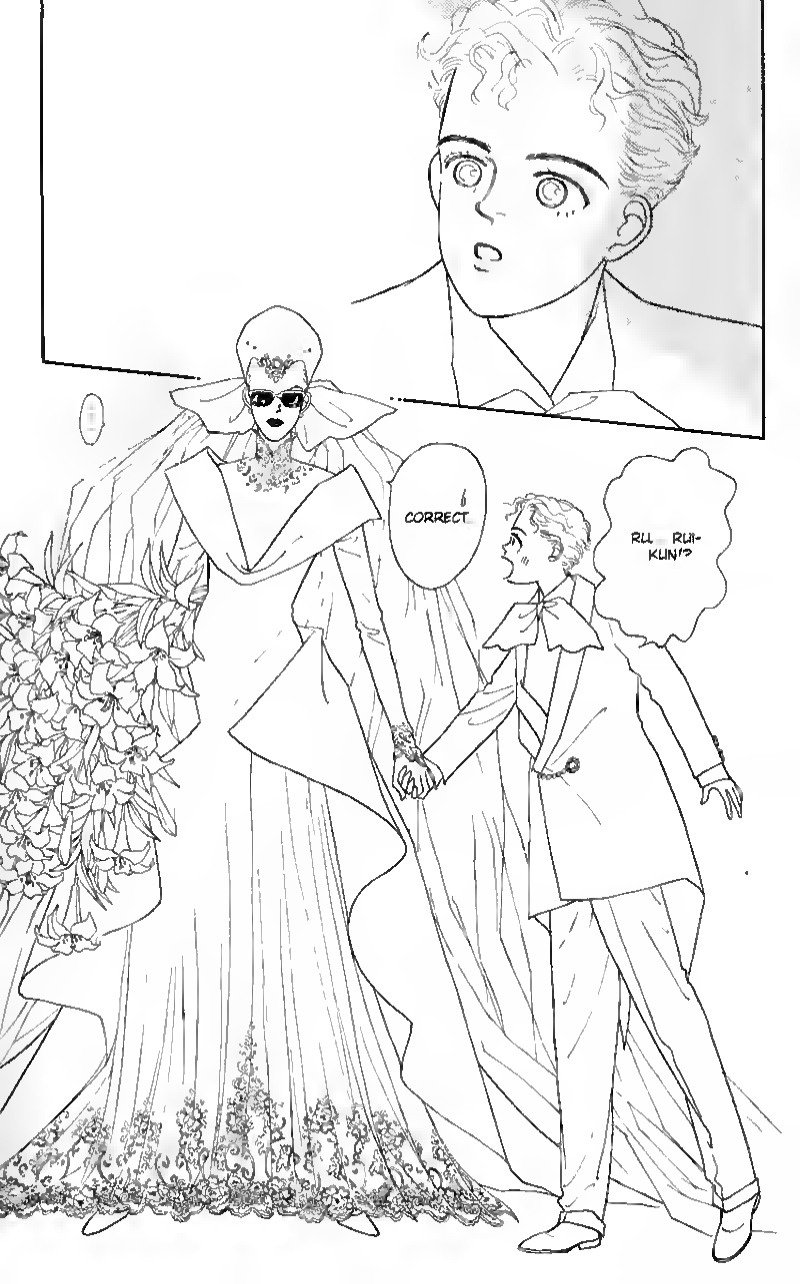

YOU NOW LOOK AT ME THE WAY THOSE WOMEN DO.
AND YOU WALK LIKE THEM TOO.
AND THIS UGLY COLOR MAKE-UP . THE STYLIST DIDN'T DO A GOOD JOB AT ALL.
You weren't talking about us were you?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
WAIT A SEC, RU!


THE SHOW IS ON NOW! HURRY UP AND GET ON THE STAGE!

KYAAA! NATSUME IS SO CUTE!

IT WAS LIKE WALKING IN A DREAM...
WHAT EXACTLY WAS THAT?
IT'S FINALLY OVER.
NATSUME-CHAN! YOU STILL HAVE ONE LAST PIECE TO WEAR!
EH?
HUH?
BUT I... WHAT?
LAST ONE, HUH?
NO WAY!

OK!
WHAT IS THE THEME NOW? IS IT A WEDDING DRESS?
SO PRETTY.
SHE'S EVEN WEARING SUNGLASSES
THIS IS THE LAST ONE LET'S GO.

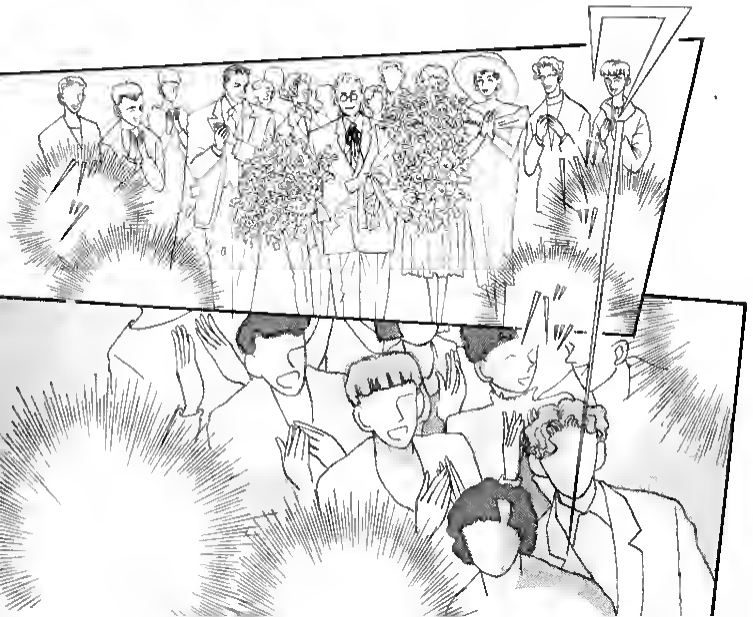

CORRECT
RU... RUI-KUN!?

IT'S NAT-SUME!

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
WHA..?
FROM THE RIGHT EN-TRANCE!
RUI-KUN?
WHAT ARE YOU...?

JEEZ WHAT AN UNEXPECTED DESIGN HE'S MADE
INDEED
AH! HELPEM!

BUT THIS IS A LOT OF FUN!



ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY IF WE DON'T COME BACK?
NO.
DO YOU WANT TO COME BACK?

P-HELPER! GO AWAY!
AH! RUI-KUN! P-HELPER'S FOOTPRINT IS ON YOUR DRESS!
AND HIS DROOL TOO!
Rui-kun!
Wait a second!

END